

## Mobutu renews search for Angola peace

ROQUEBRUNE, France (R) — Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko Konde Ngbendu began his most serious bid to revive a peace accord to end Angola's 14-year civil war. Mobutu was holding secret talks in southern France with Angola's UNITA rebel leader Jonas Savimbi and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen. Cohen played a key role in talks in Washington earlier this month when President George Bush persuaded Savimbi to return to the conference table. A Zairean spokesman described the talks in France as "very delicate." He was referring to the crucial issue of what peace formula Savimbi would accept as a condition for agreeing to a ceasefire in the war between the Launda government and UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola). Savimbi deals he agreed to go into exile and merge his guerrilla force into the Angolan army as announced after the June summit in Gbadolite, Zaire. A blaze of publicity followed the Chadidite meeting at which Savimbi met and shook hands for the first time with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. UNITA, which is backed by Pretoria and Washington, stepped up fighting after the ceasefire announcement and diplomatic contacts have continued for a relaunch of Mobutu's mediation.

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Israeli soldiers examining identity papers in Beit Sahour in the occupied West Bank

## Israelis press ahead with Beit Sahour raids

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)** — Israeli troops and tax collectors have seized goods worth a million dollars from Palestinians refusing to pay taxes in the besieged West Bank town of Beit Sahour, an informed Israeli source said Sunday.

Other sources told Reuters the Israeli general in charge of the occupied West Bank had told his staff not to talk about the tax raids.

Domestic appliances, furniture, cars, machinery and merchandise have been seized from dozens of Palestinians boycotting taxes in protest at the Israeli occupation.

Palestinians say the raids intensified in the last week and at least 30 people in Beit Sahour had been arrested for refusing to pay income tax. The army declined comment but one Israeli source quoted by Reuters said the number of arrests was lower.

Sources said Major-General Yitzhak Mordochai, the tough new head of Israel's central command, ordered army spokesmen to give no information on Beit Sahour to stem the growth of an international protest campaign.

"All I can tell you is that Beit Sahour is a closed military area. We have no other information," a military spokesman said.

Sunday. Troops have cut telephone links and sealed off the approach roads to the town, near Bethlehem, with mounds of earth and rock barriers.

British Consul-General Ivan Callan, who managed to enter Beit Sahour on a back road last week, said the 12,000 residents remained cheerful and determined despite the crackdown.

Diplomats said several countries lodged sharply worded protests with Israel after the army blocked seven West European consuls from visiting the town Oct. 6 (see page 2).

Sources said the army had dropped its original plan to auction the goods seized at Beit Sahour and would instead dispose of them in lots by tender.

Also Sunday, masked uprising activists killed a Palestinian gardener, who was accused of collaborating with Israel, by shooting him twice in the head at point-blank range in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah, reporters said.

The victim was identified as Abed Rabu Abu Amra, 24, who was shot as he pruned trees at a U.N.-owned school. Reporters said Abu Amra had been warned last month not to cooperate with Israeli officials.

Three Palestinians were also reported shot and wounded in clashes with soldiers Sunday in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The death in Gaza took the number of Palestinians killed in the 22-month-old uprising to 685.

Meanwhile an underground leaflet called for general strikes on Oct. 21 and 29 "to reject all conspiracies and assert adherence to the Palestinian peace programme" and a strike on Nov. 9 to mark the start of the uprising's 24th month.

It said Israel's May 14 proposal for elections to choose delegates to negotiate an interim period of limited self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip was an attempt to liquidate the Palestinian people.

On Saturday, Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian and wounded at least 15 others during protest marches and clashes in the occupied territories.

Palestinian sources said Ramadan Mohammad Kawasmi, 18, was painting nationalist Palestinian slogans in the West Bank town of Hebron when Israeli troops came upon him and shot him dead.

In the Gaza Strip, troops shot and wounded at least 15 Palestinians, including a seven-year-old girl shot in the head with live ammunition.

## 'Constitution vs. Election Law' goes to court

## Bedouin nominees told to contest seats in own regions

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Three contestants who filed their nomination papers in Amman and Irbid to the Nov. 8 elections have been informed by the government that their candidacy applications were not acceptable in the two cities. The three were advised to re-submit their applications in the districts assigned for them.

The candidates, when contacted by the Jordan Times, cited a "discrepancy" between the Jordanian Constitution and the Election Law as the factor behind the decision.

The governor of Amman informed Mashour Haditheh and Sheikh Naief Khreisha that their applications for candidacy in the Second District of the capital have been rejected and advised the two to re-submit their papers to their original constituency, the central bedouin region.

Terrad Al Qadi, a candidate in Irbid, was informed by the governor of Irbid to re-submit his application to the seats assigned for south-Jordan bedouins.

The three have gone to court to contest the government's decision.

The decision to bar Khreisha, Haditheh and Qadi from running in city constituencies is based on stipulations in the 1986 Election Law which assigned a certain number of seats to Circassians, Shishanis, Christians and bedouins and barred citizens who fall under these three umbrellas to run in seats assigned to others.

But, according to Article 6 of the Jordanian Constitution, which was cited by the candidates as the reason behind the "legitimacy" of their original candidacy objective, "Jordanians are all equal before the law, without discrimination in rights and duties and regardless of origin, sect, language or religion."

Haditheh, when contacted by the Jordan Times by telephone, asserted that "this decision is not in accordance with the articles of the Constitution and I describe this as an assault on human rights and the Constitution."

He added that the "label of bedouins" had ended 24 years ago, apart from the fact that it does not apply to him personally although he stressed his pride in his bedouin origin and his tribe.

"I served in Amman and Zarqa for over 40 years. I was born in Amman. I am a resident of Amman and I pay taxes in Amman," Haditheh maintained.

Khreisha, contacted by telephone in his home in Muwaqar, argued: "According to the articles of the Constitution, they cannot ban me from running in the districts of Amman."

A lawyer, who asked to remain anonymous, said that the rejection of the candidacies was "wrong and contradicts the Constitution."

Although he understood the legal basis for the government's decision, the lawyer said, "there shouldn't be anything that can stop bedouins from running in other districts."

Haditheh said he had faith in the Jordanian legal system and its "honour and purity," but expressed hope that the first instance court, where the candidates will contest the government's decision, will base its decision on "the original law (Constitution) and not the wrong interpretations of it."

If the first instance court rules against the candidates, the decision will be deemed final and cannot be contested.

Asked whether they will run in their respective district if the government's decision is upheld by the court, Haditheh and Khreisha both said: "There will be no chance of that now."

Qadi was not available for comment, but his family confirmed that he had received a letter from the governor in Irbid and has already contested the decision in court.

## W. Banker turned down

AMMAN (I.T.) — The nomination of Nimr Sirhan Al Tamimi as a candidate in the Fifth District of Amman has been rejected on grounds that the nominees is not eligible to run for seats in the Jordanian Parliament in wake of the Kingdom's severance of links with the occupied West Bank last year, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

The decision, issued by the governor of Amman, said that "persons originally residing on the occupied West Bank and holding two-year Jordanian passports and working for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) cannot stand for elections in Jordan in accordance with Paragraph A of Article 28 of the 1986 Election Law and its amendments," according to Petra.

It further noted that Tamimi was an employee at the embassy of the State of Palestine in Amman and the provisions of Paragraph A of Article 28 of the 1986 Election Law and its amendments apply to him.

Ministry of Interior officials said later Sunday that the nomination of a woman from Ajlun, Huda Rabadi, was also rejected on the ground that she is carrying an American passport.

error's decision was upheld by the court, Haditheh and Khreisha both said: "There will be no chance of that now."

Qadi was not available for comment, but his family confirmed that he had received a letter from the governor in Irbid and has already contested the decision in court.

He was publicly warned that the people will not forgive any deputy who makes concessions on Lebanon's sovereignty.

Aoun declared a "war of liberation" against the Syrian military presence in Lebanon last March and remains deeply suspicious of the Taif peace talks.

Conference sources said Saadeh and five other East Beirut members of parliament gave mediators proposals for a quicker start to the two-year Syrian redeployment to eastern Lebanon and a firm deadline for a complete withdrawal from the country.

A "national reconciliation charter" under study at the Taif talks gives the Syrians two years to pull back to the eastern Bekaa Valley, starting from the time parliament passes political reforms in favour of Muslims.

The Christians acknowledged that a quick withdrawal would leave a security vacuum and allow unruly militias to seize 70 per cent of the territory now under Syrian control. But they insisted two years was too long.

Saadeh said: "We are asking for guarantees, clarifications and amendments on the sovereignty (Syrian withdrawal) clause" of the reconciliation charter.

"If we don't agree on that clause, the rest of the agreement collapses," he said Saturday in an interview with the Paris-based

one possibility. Two special trains took some 1,500 East Germans from Warsaw to West Germany last week but the Bonn sources said East Berlin would not provide the trains again.

The sources said it was not clear if East Germany would expel the refugees or grant normal exit visas.

It was also unclear for how long exit papers would be issued to those who continued to use the West German embassy in Warsaw as an escape route.

Polish diplomatic sources, however, indicated that the issuing of emigration papers by the East German embassy was likely to become a permanent arrangement.

Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski said last

reached in Warsaw by East German Deputy Foreign Minister Harry Ott and Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski.

Among those arriving at the West German embassy in Warsaw Sunday was a family who had persuaded East German authorities to let them travel to Poland using a holiday invitation from a Polish family.

The father said he was motivated to leave by the fierce police crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations that swept East Germany during last week's observance of the 40th anniversary of the country's founding.

Rather than being inspired by the outbreak of opposition activity in the hardline Communist nation, the man said he was shocked by the repression.

"My protest was to leave," he said.

Other East Germans who have arrived in Warsaw in the last week have also cited police brutality as the reason behind their flight.

In Bonn, government sources said they expected travel passes to be issued gradually by East Germany's Warsaw embassy over a period of days beginning Monday to avoid a mass exodus.

The asylum-seekers, who arrive in the first instance at West Germany's embassy in Warsaw, are being housed in residences and holiday camps in and around Warsaw.

The governments of East Germany, Poland and West Germany, meanwhile, were discussing how the refugees would journey to West Germany, with air travel

## Church assured that Waite is alive

LONDON (AP) — The Church of England said Sunday it has been assured by a reliable Iranian informant that missing envoy Terry Waite is alive on his 1,000th day in captivity. The unidentified source also provided assurances that two other missing Britons — journalist John McCarthy and Northern Irish teacher Brian Keenan — are alive, said Eve Keadley, a spokeswoman for Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie. Waite, 50, the archbishop's personal emissary, dropped out of sight in Beirut Jan. 20, 1987 while trying to negotiate the release of two U.S. hostages. He was on his fifth mission to Lebanon. He is widely believed to have been taken captive by Iranian-backed extremists. "We have had further assurances this weekend from Iranian sources that the three British hostages are alive," Keadley said. "We still have no concrete proof of this," she said. "The information comes via a channel that we think is reliable but which we do not wish to identify." Churches across Britain were reciting a prayer Sunday written by the archbishop. On Sunday, McCarthy had been missing for 1,278 days and Keenan for 1,283 days, about 3½ years. No group has claimed to hold them or Waite.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday meets with American Islamic leader Imam Shamsuddin Ali and a delegation accompanying him (Petra photo)

## Regent meets U.S. Islamic scholar

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday received Imam Shamsuddin Ali, a prominent Muslim leader and director general of the Islamic School in Philadelphia in the United States.

Imam Shamsuddin voiced his support for the Regent's efforts to improve relations between the Muslim community in the U.S. and Jordan.

The meeting was attended by the Royal Court secretary general and academic relations between the Islamic school and educational institutions in Jordan.

Prince Hassan said that Jordan was ready to provide every possible help to strengthen cultural relations between the Muslim community in the U.S. and Jordan.

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## Uprising leaders, Shamir assail American proposals

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Underground leaders of the Palestinian uprising and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir dealt a double blow Sunday to U.S. efforts to bring about Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Cairo.

The uprising leadership urged Palestinians to "reject the suspicious American role, foremost of which is the five-point proposal of (Secretary of State) James Baker."

In their 47th leaflet, distributed in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, they stressed that only the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) could appoint Palestinian delegates to peace talks.

Shamir meanwhile told the Israeli newspaper Maariv there was no need for talks in Cairo at all, since Israel would only talk to Palestinians from the occupied territories and would not let the PLO play any role.

"Who says it was to be in Cairo? Why go all the way to Cairo when both sides, Israelis and Palestinians, are here?" the headline Israeli leader asked.

It was his most outspoken rejection to date of any Egyptian mediation role.

The director-general of Shamir's office, Yossi Ben-Aharon, told Israeli radio the message was that Israel would not agree to the participation of Palestinians from outside the territories or to any process leading towards a Palestinian state.

The Unified Leadership of the Uprising, a coalition of national-

ist groups, said talks with Israel must be held within the framework of an international peace conference and cover Palestinian demands for self-determination and statehood.

But Shamir said any talks prior to Israeli-proposed elections in the territories would be purely technical and Israel would send "bureaucrats...not statesmen or politicians."

Baker last week proposed a five-point framework for Israeli-Palestinian talks on elections and other issues in Cairo, giving Egypt a major role in arranging the Palestinian delegation through contacts with Israel and Washington.

He intervened after Israel's inner cabinet, due to the blocking vote of Shamir's rightist Likud party, rejected Egypt's invitation to talks with PLO-backed delegation in Cairo.

Likud sources said they were counting on the Palestine Central Council, meeting in Baghdad, to reject the Baker formula and take the pressure off Israel to respond.

Shamir has objected to three of Baker's points, saying they allow Egypt to consult the PLO, do not give Israel a clear veto on Palestinian delegates and would allow Palestinians to raise demands unrelated to elections in the preliminary talks.

Critics accuse Shamir of wanting to ensure his own initiative never has to be implemented by setting terms which the Palestinians are bound to reject.

Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc

opposes any contact with the PLO. But leaders of the Labour Party, Likud's partners in the coalition cabinet, increasingly have spoken of the need to talk at least to PLO supporters.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a key Labour figure, said in an interview Friday that Israel had no other choice.

"If we say that we are not prepared to negotiate with Palestinians who have views similar to the PLO outlook, or who are members of the PLO, then we have no Palestinians for negotiations," Rabin told the left-wing Al Hamishmar newspaper.

Contacts are still ongoing between the United States, Egypt and Israel on the Baker proposal for a meeting of the three countries' foreign ministers, Israel's ambassador to Cairo said Sunday.

Shimon Shamir spoke to reporters following a one-hour meeting in Cairo with Foreign Minister Ezer Weizman. Shamir returned to the Egyptian capital Saturday after consultations with his government.

"We are at a sensitive and important stage in the peace process and (Israeli Foreign Minister) Mr. Moshe Arens and Mr. Abdul Meguid want to get to know each other's viewpoints thoroughly," Shamir said.

"I am carrying a verbal message from Mr. Arens which clarifies Israel's position," he said. "Israel's point of view is based on Israel's 14... initiative which outlines three stages for elections."

On Saturday, the Polish news agency PAP said Poland greeted "with satisfaction" the agreement

## Asylum-seeking Germans on the rise in Warsaw

WARSAW (Agencies) — More East German refugees came to the West German embassy Sunday in hopes of being allowed to go West, while nearly 1,000 others waited anxiously for their promised departure.

Poland and East Germany agreed Saturday to allow refugees at the embassy or other shelters to obtain travel documents from the East German embassy in Warsaw and then travel to wherever they choose. It was not clear whether the agreement would apply to East Germans arriving in Poland Sunday or afterwards.

A West German official in Bonn, speaking on condition of not being identified, said the departures would begin Monday.

On Saturday, the Polish news agency PAP said Poland greeted "with satisfaction" the agreement

reached in Warsaw by East German Deputy Foreign Minister Harry Ott and Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski.

Among those arriving at the West German embassy in Warsaw Sunday was a family who had persuaded East German authorities to let them travel to Poland using a holiday invitation from a Polish family.

The father said he was motivated to leave by the fierce police crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations that swept East Germany during last week's observance of the 40th anniversary of the country's founding.

Rather than being inspired by the outbreak of opposition activity in the hardline Communist nation, the man said he was shocked by the repression.

"My protest was to leave," he said.

Other East Germans who have arrived in Warsaw in the last week have also cited police brutality as the reason behind their flight.

In Bonn, government sources said they expected travel passes to be issued gradually by East Germany's Warsaw embassy over a period of days beginning Monday to avoid a mass exodus.

The asylum-seekers, who arrive in the first instance at West Germany's embassy in Warsaw, are being housed in residences and holiday camps in and around Warsaw.

The governments of East Germany, Poland and West Germany, meanwhile, were discussing how the refugees would journey to West Germany, with air travel

one possibility. Two special trains took some 1,500 East Germans from Warsaw to West Germany last week but the Bonn sources said East Berlin would not provide the trains again.

The sources said it was not clear if East Germany would expel the refugees or grant normal exit visas.

It was also unclear for how long exit papers would be issued to those who continued to use the West German embassy in Warsaw as an escape route.

Polish diplomatic sources, however, indicated that the issuing of emigration papers by the East German embassy was likely to become a permanent arrangement.

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Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski said last

Thursday he opposed deporting East Germans who had entered Poland illegally although he also wished to preserve good relations with East Berlin.

Apart from the refugees, 80,000 East Germans have moved to West Germany with legal exit visas this year. Those who leave without official permission, sometimes after waiting years for visas, are guilty of "fleeing the republic," a crime.

West German border police said the total of East Germans quitting their homeland illegally for West Germany since the beginning of July reached 52,075 Sunday morning. Most fled across Hungary.

East German travel restrictions to Hungary and Czechoslovakia cut the daily flood drastically last week.



# Reluctant U.S. dragged into peace process

By Alan Elser  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Slowly, somewhat against its will, the United States is being dragged into the peace process in the Middle East.

"The Middle East was not high on the (President George Bush's) administration's agenda. The last thing it wanted was to get dragged into that briar patch," said Geoffrey Kemp, a senior associate with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a private concern.

"But both Israel and Egypt are pushing for Washington to do more, though each has very different expectations, and the focus has switched back to the administration," he said.

One Middle Eastern diplomat put it more bluntly — "The administration didn't want to get its hands dirty on the Middle East, but now they are in there up to the elbows."

The event which flushed the administration out into the open was last week's rejection by Israel's inner cabinet of an Egyptian blueprint designed to pave the way for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Secretary of State James Baker had endorsed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's 10-point plan which he said fleshed out and did not contradict an original four-point election proposal from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

But Shamir's right-wing Likud Party, senior partner in the fractured and fractious Israeli coalition, has demanded a veto over members of the Palestinian delegation with which it would negotiate the terms of the election.

Officials said Likud ministers wanted to exclude supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or at least minimise the PLO's influence.

Paced with stalemate, Baker had intensive telephone consultations with the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel and put together a five-point document which officials describe as a further gloss on the Shamir and Mubarak initiatives.

According to Israel Radio, the points merely reiterated that

Egypt would consult Palestinians on the composition of the Palestinian delegation but would not speak on their behalf while Israel would attend the talks only if it was satisfied with the composition of the Palestinian delegation.

The fifth point, to be implemented after the first four were agreed, would involve a meeting of the three foreign ministers in Washington.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

Administration officials took pains to emphasise that the five points did not constitute a "Baker plan" to set alongside the Shamir and Mubarak plans.

"It's not a plan, it's not a proposal — it's just points," said State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler.

But the paper was immediately condemned by right-wing Israeli ministers as a U.S. ploy to put pressure on Israel. Three right-wing ministers rallied several hundred supporters in Tel Aviv to protest against the "Baker plan."

According to John Hannah, deputy director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Baker was anxious to avoid the mistake of his predecessor George Shultz by linking his personal prestige too closely to the success or failure of the efforts.

"The sense is that the time is still not ripe for a full-blown American initiative because, then, everyone could sit back and take shots at it," he said.

"The administration assumes that there will be a bloc inside the Likud opposed to anything and everything but it is banking on the hope that Shamir can still carry something through," he said.

Officials said Baker was still working on his five points with Israel and Egypt and that both countries had raised concerns about them.

Kemp said he expected the Washington meeting of foreign ministers to go ahead but would be surprised if anything substantive emerged from it.

"The administration has to approach Israel now with a mixture of carrots and sticks. Israel must be made aware that its support is slipping within the U.S. Congress and that concessions are now called for on its part," he said.

## Kabul invites U.S. to inspect missile base

KABUL (R) — Afghanistan has invited U.S. officials to inspect a missile base near Kabul in an attempt to dispel allegations that it is secretly operated by Soviet military experts.

Government spokesman Mohammad Amani has dismissed as "baseless" reports in U.S. newspapers quoting Central Intelligence Agency sources as saying 300 Soviet military personnel were stationed at the base to oversee the firing of Soviet Scud missiles at rebel positions.

The reports said the presence of the Soviet experts would be a breach of the Geneva accords under which Moscow withdrew the last of its 110,000 troops from Afghanistan in February.

"The Afghan authorities are prepared to accept U.S. experts to visit and check whether they feel there are Russian advisers including the station where Scud missiles are fired," Amani said. "The accusations are baseless."

Western reporters might also be allowed to visit the base,

Amani said.

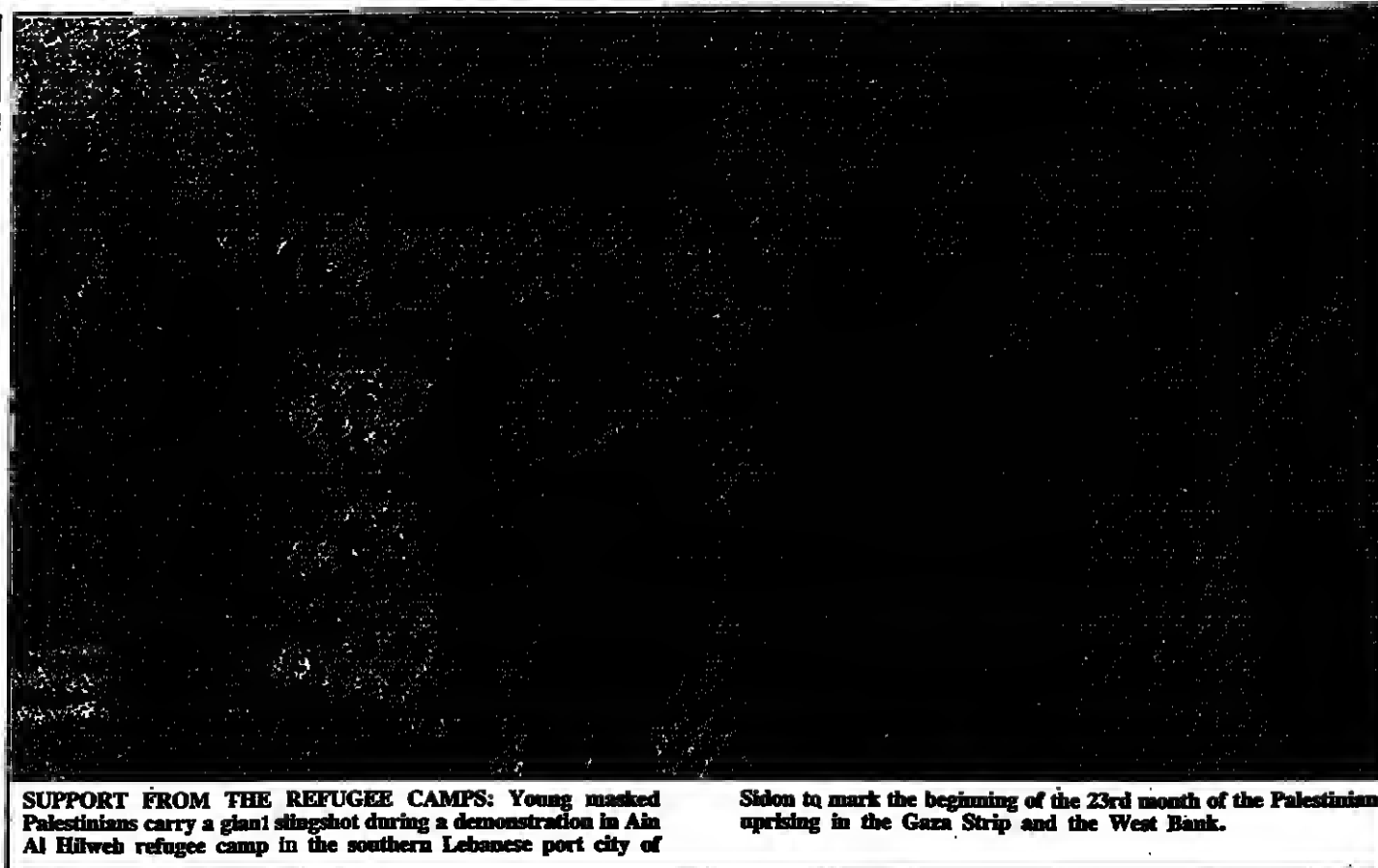
Foreign diplomats in the Afghan capital said it was highly unlikely the United States would take up such an invitation.

The Soviet Union has kept up heavy supplies of arms, food and vital equipment to the government of President Najibullah since its troop pullout in February. Some 20 to 30 Soviet transport planes land in Kabul daily.

The aid has helped Najibullah's government defy predictions that it would collapse soon after the Soviet withdrawal and even strengthened its hold over Afghanistan's cities and key roads.

For its part, Kabul has issued hundreds of protests since February against what it says are breaches of the Geneva accords by the United States and Pakistan, main backers of the Mujahideen rebels.

Amani said the Mujahideen were planning a major attack on Jalalabad close to the Pakistan border, in an operation he alleged was orchestrated by the United States and Pakistan.



## Osama Al Baz — the brains that steer Cairo's diplomacy

By John Fullerton  
Reuter

CAIRO — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his ministers make the grand decisions. But it is Osama Al Baz who from the shadows offers advice and stitches Egypt's Arab-Israeli policy together.

Little is known about him. Baz, 58, prefers it that way. He likes cigars, pizzas and classical music and shuns both publicity and the visible trappings of wealth associated with high public office.

"We can't get anywhere near him," says one senior Western diplomat. "I've been here three years and maybe shaken his hand twice. That's as near as we get to him."

His official rank, that of first under-secretary at the Foreign Ministry, belies the enormous influence he wields as adviser to Mubarak on Middle East peace diplomacy.

Former colleagues say his ideas are central to Egypt's formulation of policy towards the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel. Behind the latest proposal to hold the first Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo lies Baz's hidden hand, guiding and cajoling.

For top PLO officials, for U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner as well as high-level envoys from other Arab capitals, the way to Mubarak lies through Baz's office, diplomats say.

"He's very prickly," says one visitor to the presidency. "He sat down opposite me while I was waiting to see the president and blew cigar smoke in my face and tried to find out all he could about me. I was quite unnerved by his questions."

A Palestinian acquaintance commented: "He is an aggressive



Osama Al Baz

negotiator and very, very bright."

The diminutive, conservatively-dressed civil servant is valued for his experience, his wide-ranging contacts throughout the Arab World, his incorruptible image and his loyalty.

"He can summarise everything you ever wanted to know about Egyptian foreign policy in five minutes, or he can lecture you for three hours without telling you a thing," says one veteran Egyptian journalist.

Colleagues of his say he shows no appetite for the status symbols of power. Apparently he owns no palatial villas, and has never to anyone's knowledge ever owned his own car.

He relaxes in his office after normal working hours by taking off his shoes, putting his feet on his desk, loosening his collar and turning on Mozart, acquaintances say.

Outside the office he has been glimpsed munching on a pizza in an inexpensive restaurant, queuing to pay his son's school fees or being driven to work in a black government Mercedes.

Still, the U.S.-educated lawyer remains an enigma.

For the Egyptian journalists covering the Camp David negotiations between Israel and

Egypt in 1977, Baz was known as a hawk, constantly prodding the late President Anwar Sadat into demanding more from Israel.

Despite his reputation as a tough negotiator with solid Arab nationalist credentials, he constantly strove to present Sadat's policies in the best possible light, at least publicly.

"When Sadat's star was fading and everyone was jumping ship, it was Baz who accompanied Sadat on his visit to occupied Jerusalem and he was among the handful who stood by Sadat when he signed the peace treaty with Israel in 1979," recalls one veteran reporter.

It was also Baz who played an important role behind the scenes in helping Mubarak mend Arab ties that had been broken by the treaty, and it was he who reportedly helped ensure that despite the Arab boycott, contact was kept with the PLO.

Baz was out of Cairo last November when PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat declared the establishment of a Palestinian state. "Egypt offered for some time, but I noticed that the very day Osama was back in town Egypt announced its recognition of Palestinian statehood," says one diplomat.

"He's the great wheeler-dealer, hard to get to and extremely shrewd," he adds. "Intellectually he's very sharp and always illuminating to talk to. His modest way of life is all part of his being invisible."

Some Egyptians call Baz the Henry Kissinger of Egypt, but one joke circulating in Cairo's cocktail circuit has the former U.S. secretary of state pacing up and down his Washington office and patting himself on the back, muttering: "I'm the Osama Al Baz of the United States."

## EC envoys to visit Mideast

ESCLIMONT, France (R) — Three European Community (EC) foreign ministers plan a Middle East tour in November and hope to meet Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, diplomats said Sunday.

The three ministers — from Spain, France and Ireland — also want to visit Israel for talks on peace prospects in the region but arranging dates was proving difficult, the diplomats added.

They were speaking after a two-day informal meeting of EC foreign ministers in France.

Three current Middle East peace plans, drawn up by the United States, Egypt and Israel, are certain to be at the centre of next month's discussions.

The 12-nation EC favours an international conference on the Middle East conflict, rejecting Israeli government fears that such an assembly would seek to impose a settlement.

The EC three ministers represent the past, present and future incumbents of the bloc's alternating presidency.

The diplomats said the three hoped to meet Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Arafat in Tunisia Nov. 11 before heading to Cairo for talks the next day with Mubarak.

Israel declined to receive a previous EC mission which visited the region in February because of the membership of Greece. Israel deems Greece to be too overtly pro-Palestinian.

But the diplomats did not indicate that Israel was opposed to meeting the latest mission. They said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens both had busy travel schedules and suitable dates had not yet been arranged.

## Israel considers steps against British envoy

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel is considering steps against a British diplomat who questioned the shooting of a Palestinian, charging that the envoy entered two West Bank towns without permission, Israel Television said.

It quoted a foreign ministry spokesman as saying that Consul-General Ivan Callan had gone into two towns in the Israeli-occupied West Bank against military closure orders.

The ministry was exploring what diplomatic measures it could take against Callan, the report said.

Callan, Britain's top diplomat in the Israeli-occupied territories, visited Nablus and Beit Sahour Wednesday.

He quoted a Nablus woman as saying that on Monday Israeli troops had shot dead Palestinian student Nidal Al Habash after he had stopped and raised his hands in surrender.

He quoted her as saying troops shot the student three more times as he lay on the ground.

"I heard her account from the place where she saw the event and it seemed to be a credible account," Callan said. "There is cause for serious concern... this

deserves to be investigated."

The army has denied the eyewitness report and said that a preliminary investigation by the area military commander found "the soldiers behaved correctly according to all procedures."

It said military police had launched a separate inquiry.

Callan was not immediately available for comment.

Spokesman denies TV report

Foreign ministry spokesman Yosi Amihud told Reuters Sunday "The foreign ministry will relate to the subject in all its possible aspects on receiving all

the details."

He said an Israel television report Saturday that the foreign ministry was considering steps against consul-general Ivan Callan was not true.

"The television correspondent's attribution was not correct," Amihud said.

He denied saying to Israel Television that Israel was considering steps against Callan for entering the two West Bank towns.

Amihud said: "I did not say those things."

The army has denied the eyewitness report on the killing.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### King Fahd appoints justice minister

NICOSIA (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia appointed Mohammad Ibn Jubair as justice minister Saturday, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. Jubair, a minister of state without portfolio, had been acting justice minister since Sheikh Ibrahim Al Sheikh resigned in May for health reasons.

### Vassiliou leaves Bahrain for Singapore

BAHRAIN (R) — Cypriot President George Vassiliou left Bahrain Sunday for Singapore after talks with the Emir, Sheikh Isa Ibn Sulman Al Khalifa. The Gulf News Agency said the leaders discussed regional spending and bilateral ties after Vassiliou arrived Saturday. It added that Vassiliou would go to Malaysia, where a conference of Commonwealth leaders begins Wednesday, after his Singapore visit.

### Turkish forces kill 7 Kurdish rebels

SIRNAK, Turkey (R) — Turkish forces killed seven Kurdish rebels, including two women, near the south eastern town of Erak Saturday night, security sources said. The Marxist guerrillas were shot dead in fighting which was continuing in rugged areas north of the Iraqi border, they said. Nearly 2,000 people have been killed since mid-1984 when the Kurdish Workers Party launched a campaign for autonomy for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds.

### Ankara inaugurates landmark tower

ANKARA (R) — Ankara celebrated its 66th anniversary as Turkey's capital by opening a 127-metre (380-foot) tower looming over its skyline. It is called Atakule, the father tower, a tribute to Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of the Turkish Republic. Built on a hilltop and designed by Turkish architect Ragip Bulut, the tower has a revolving restaurant in its hub and a 200-shop arcade. Under a build-operate-transfer scheme completed in less than three years at a cost of 20 billion lira (\$9 billion), the builders, Kutulas A.S., the state-owned Vakiflar Bankasi and two private financiers will operate the tower for 30 years.

### Tehran newspaper criticises Vatican

NICOSIA (AP) — A Tehran newspaper Saturday criticised a Vatican official for claiming Islamic countries were racist, trying to impose their beliefs on religious minorities. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said the daily Abrar was responding to a statement by Archbishop Renato Martino, the permanent Vatican observer at the United Nations. The agency, which is monitored in Nicosia, did not say when and where Renato's alleged anti-Islamic statement was made. It quoted Abrar as saying that although Muslims regard international Zionism and the United States as the eternal enemies of Islam, yet a spirit of peaceful coexistence with Jewish and Christian minorities and reciprocal respect exists in Islamic lands. Abrar said that Jews and Christians live in complete freedom in Islamic countries. It added that in Islamic Iran there were hundreds of synagogues and churches with their services relayed by Iran's state television. "In contrast Muslims have not been allowed to build a mosque in Rome for centuries," it said.

### Syrian MIG-23 offers intelligence gains

TEL AVIV (AP) — The former head of Israel's air force intelligence said Saturday the Syrian MIG-23 fighter jet flown to Israel this week provides the West with "a first hand touch" on advanced Soviet-designed avionics. "It is a dream come true for every chief of intelligence to have (hold off) an enemy aircraft which ... can now be evaluated and test flown," said Reserve Brig. Gen. Gded Erez. Erez is a former Israeli fighter pilot and served as head of the air force intelligence. He also commanded Israel's air defences. He spoke on Israel Radio's English language broadcast. He said the MIG-23, which was landed in Israel by a Syrian Air Force pilot Wednesday, contains advanced avionics, missile and warning systems and radar that Israel and the West have not been able to examine before hand.

## Iraq prepares for opening of new Fao

BAGHDAD (AP) — The government has appointed a new governor for the war-devastated city of Fao just days before the population will be allowed to return, the governor of neighbouring Basra said Saturday.

Anwar Saeed Al Hadithi told the Associated Press in a telephone interview that the new governor of Fao, a port city which had a population of about 50,000, is Najib Mohammad Salman, who has already assumed office along with other government officials.

Iraq is planning for grand celebrations Oct. 25 to mark the inauguration of the new city and its reopening to the civilian population evacuated immediately after the war broke out in September 1980.

President Saddam Hussein has sent special envoys to all Arab leaders inviting them to attend the celebrations, but there is no word yet on who is coming.

Hadithi said life will return to normal in the city, which lies on the west bank of the Shatt Al Arab Waterway. The ceasefire line runs down the middle of the disputed waterway.

Hadithi said all the main rebuilding projects have been completed in the city, virtually destroyed during the eight-year Gulf war with Iran.

The government has rebuilt offices, schools, hospitals and repaired the city streets.

The Basra governor said the government has allocated plots of land to each family who used to live in Fao to rebuild a new house in addition to more than 10,000 dinars (\$30,000).

Locals are expected to start building their houses as soon as they return, he said.

Hadithi said all rivers and the irrigation system in the area were cleaned so that farmers can start planting for the coming winter growing season.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ..... Koran  
15:45 ..... Programme review  
15:55 ..... Children programmes  
16:00 ..... Flying Doctors  
16:05 ..... News summary in Arabic  
16:15 ..... Local series  
16:20 ..... Local programme  
16:25 ..... Programme review  
16:30 ..... News in Arabic  
16:35 ..... Arabic series  
16:40 ..... Programme review  
16:45 ..... Local programmes  
16:50 ..... News summary in Arabic

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:15 ..... Des Chiffres et de lettres  
18:45 ..... Les Pique Assiettes  
19:00 ..... Weekly Sport magazine  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ..... Varieties  
20:30 ..... Golden Girls  
21:10 ..... The Justice Game  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Blue Blood

### PRAYER TIMES

04:18 ..... Fajr  
05:35 ..... (Sunrise) Dhuha  
11:21 ..... Dhuhur  
14:36 ..... 'Asr  
17:07 ..... Maghreb  
18:24 ..... 'Isha

## CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifich Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624390

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terracotta Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 683326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Another rise in temperatures will occur and winds will be northerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp. 14 / 28

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Aqaba ..... 20 / 32  
Duscri ..... 14 / 30  
Jordan Valley ..... 20 / 32

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 30. Humidity readings: Amman 31 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Dawud Samhouri ..... 689535  
Dr. Nabil Al Mandi ..... 615338  
Dr. Kayed Halayqeh ..... 793522  
Dr. Bassim Al Qaddoumi ..... 646024  
Fins pharmacy ..... 661912  
Al Asema pharmacy ..... 670525  
Nairoukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisat pharmacy ..... 637660

ERBID:  
Dr. Muathir Al Sheikh Salem ..... (—)  
Al Sharaa' pharmacy ..... 985238

ZARQA:  
Dr. Mufeed Dama ..... (—)  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 630341  
Rescue ..... 199  
Fire Brigade ..... 621111, 637777  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 643402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 06-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... 06-53200

## EMERGENCIES

## HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 81381/332  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. .... 644281/6  
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. .... 62441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Molhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisat ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisat Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 843845  
Al-Musader Hospital ..... 6722719  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/7

Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Al-Sana, Al-Muhajres ..... 777101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775112/6  
Artry, Maria ..... 896111/5  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 6724050  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155

ZARQA:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272275  
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:00 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
10:40 ..... Sana'a (RJ)  
10:50 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
10:55 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Laraca (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)  
17:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
17:45 ..... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)  
18:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
18:45 ..... Vienna, Istanbul (RJ)  
19:10 ..... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
19:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 ..... Dubai (EK)  
10:10 ..... Sana'a (YH)  
13:00 ..... Istanbul, Ankara (TK)

## MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (golden) ..... 420 / 380  
Apple (red) ..... 550 / 500  
Banana ..... 400 / 350  
Banana (Mekansha) ..... 350 / 320  
Beans ..... 480 / 420  
Cabbage ..... 160 / 120  
Carrot ..... 350 / 300  
Cauliflower ..... 2



## ELECTIONS '89

By Nermecia Murad

IT SEEMS that everyone wants to elect a winner. Very few voters want to create new one. In the Third District, especially, this mentality is creating a dilemma among voters. Candidates in the district have used large amounts of money dedicated to technological superiority which, with a push of a button, can give a candidate a formula for success.

In the past few weeks I have endeavored to interview as many "winners" in the capital district. I conducted 32 interviews and many of those were in the Third District. It struck me that each and everyone of them used a few minutes of the interview to appeal to me as a voter in that district and presented me with a "winning" formula which seemed invincible, leaving me baffled as to how my 12 "winners" will fit in the three seats allocated to the district.

\*\*\*

BANNERS emblazoned with campaign pledges and ideas are drawing mixed reactions from the voters. Some maintain that "these are wonderful ideas but who will implement them?" Others feel that these banners are the ultimate in democracy.

\*\*\*

A CANDIDATE walked into Amman Governorate to hand in his application form to the governor. But he had to seek help from another candidate sitting next to him to check his papers since he did not know how to read or write.

\*\*\*

Sheikh Abdul Munim Abu Zant, a renowned Islamic fundamentalist, told the Jordan Times that His Majesty King Hussein's speech two weeks ago on parliament and elections "was very clear, since His Majesty discussed fundamentalism which has led to ugly sectarianism in Lebanon and to placing explosives in Mecca during the Haj period." Islamic fundamentalism, Abu Zant said, "is above sectarianism... and those explosions in Mecca contradict the most sacred and sanctity of the faithful." Zant is running in the Second District and has allied himself with another fundamentalist, Dr. Ali Al Hawamdeh.

\*\*\*

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**LAWZI RECEIVES FRENCH ENVOY:** Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Sunday received the French Ambassador to Jordan Denis Bouchard and reviewed with him bilateral cooperation, particularly in the parliamentary field. (Petra)

**KEILANI MEETS FARMERS' COMMITTEE:** Minister of Water and Irrigation Mobammad Saleh Keilani Sunday said that the ministry is always keen on safeguarding the rights of farmers and that it allocates the residential areas and the agricultural units, in accordance with the rules in force at the Jordan Valley Authority. At a meeting with the Farmers Selection Committees in the Jordan Valley, Keilani called on the committees to allocate the land as soon as possible and to submit a comprehensive report to the authority's board of directors. (Petra)

**SAKET, SYRIAN MINISTER HOLD TALKS:** Agriculture Minister Bassam Al Saket, who is acting Planning Minister discussed with the Syrian Planning Minister Qasem Miqdad means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in the field of regional planning. The Syrian minister arrived Sunday at the head of a delegation on a week-long visit to Jordan, in response to an invitation extended to him by his Jordanian counterpart Ziad Fariz. The Syrian delegation will visit the Jordan Valley Authority projects, Hamad Basin, Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation and other industrial and agricultural projects in the Mafraq Governorate. (Petra)

**KHAMMASH TO HEAD TEAM FOR BAGHDAD TALKS:** Transport and Telecommunication Minister Hikmat Khammash will head the Jordanian delegation to the Council of Arab Transport Ministers and its executive bureau meetings, which will be held in Baghdad on Oct. 18. The delegation will also take part in the Arab Maritime Bridge Company (AMBC) meetings, which will be held there on Oct. 23.

**'CUSTOMERS COME FIRST':** Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental has signed an agreement with Reuters for the hotel and business centre package service, thus offering a wide range of real time information to satisfy the needs of the hotel guests in keeping with its policy "customers come first." Now, the hotel guests can have direct access to the world's leading news and financial information. (J.T.)

**125 FOREIGN FIRMS BLACKLISTED:** The Ministry of Finance has blacklisted 125 foreign companies for violating laws related to Arab boycott of Israel. The ministry also lifted 56 companies from the blacklist for complying with the boycott regulations. (Petra)

**AMMAN TO ATTEND ISLAMIC CONFERENCE:** Greater Amman Municipality will participate in the 13th session of the Organisation of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC) board of directors and the 6th session of the Organisation of Islamic Capitals and Cities Fund (OICCF) board of directors scheduled to convene in Islamabad on Nov. 15. The two-day discussions will deal with means to develop cooperation among Arab capitals and matters related to OICCF. Greater Amman Mayor Ali Suheimat and municipality official Ra'if Nijm will represent the Greater Amman Municipality to the sessions. (Petra)

**SSC TO MARK 11TH ANNIVERSARY:** The Social Security Corporation (SSC) Monday celebrates its 11th anniversary. On the occasion a number of new offices and branches will be opened in various parts of the country. The SSC Director General Mahdi Al Farhan will hold a press conference on that day during which he will review the corporation's achievements and its future plans. (Petra)

**WORKSHOP ON EDUCATION:** The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) regional office for education in the Arab states holds a regional workshop on preparation of model lessons in demographic education on Oct. 22. The workshop aims at exchanging national experience in the field of preparing model lessons and demographic educational material and integrating them in the school curricula for the preparatory and secondary cycles of education. The symposium also aims to identify the best method for teaching demographic studies and preparing model lessons. The workshop will be attended by educationalists from ten Arab countries, in addition to representatives from the Arab Gulf Education Office.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

## EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Fuad Mimi and 'Ammar Khammash at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre.
- ★ An Islamic book exhibition displaying a collection of books dealing with economic and literary matters related to Islam in addition to children's books, at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ A photographic exhibition depicting life as well as historical and archaeological places in Oman at the Yarmouk University.

## FILM

- ★ A French film entitled "Around Midnight", shown as part of the French Film Week at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

## RJ hopes to play leading role in region's future development

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ) the national airline, hopes to play a leading role in the future development of the region within the framework of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) which groups Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen in addition to Jordan, according to RJ chairman of the board of directors Khalidun Abu Hassan.



Khalidun Abu Hassan

Royal Jordanian will make its presence felt and will play a pivotal role in the region's future development through the ACC which sets the example and the pace along the path of Arab economic complementarity and integration, and could provide the nucleus for the creation of an Arab common market. Abu Hassan said in a major address at the opening of RJ's 26th annual marketing and sales conference at Amman Plaza Sunday.

"Thanks to the vision and pioneering spirit of His Majesty King Hussein, who has been instrumental in bringing about the formation of the ACC, the Kingdom is poised for economic take off," Abu Hassan noted.

He said that the ACC was expected to rid itself of barriers to capital and labour mobility, as well as remove constraints to the free flow of goods and services among the member countries.

Directors of sales offices at RJ's stations around the world are taking part in the conference which this year is being held under the slogan: "The way ahead: Challenge and prospects."

In their two-day meeting, the participants will discuss strategies and performance of sales offices, and will bear statements by senior RJ officials and executives.

With reference to RJ's development and successes over the years, Abu Hassan said: "Royal Jordanian has become an example worthy of emulation. Thanks to His Majesty King Hussein's drive and vision and the undiminished spirit of the early pioneers, RJ has become a monument in the everyday life of Jordan."

"In whichever way we look, RJ has left its mark. Its contributions to the national economy — creating jobs, earning foreign ex-

change, facilitating trade and commerce and portraying positive image of Jordan and Jordanians abroad — remain unassailable and will always withstand the test of time."

Referring to recent developments and prospects for the future, Abu Hassan said there are lots of good things going for RJ and the country. "For the moment it is sufficient to say that recent management changes reflect policy re-orientation rather than a change of direction. There is indeed a shift of emphasis. Profitability has become a primary objective, though not the sole index of success, which meshes well in the new economic thinking that pervades the country today," the chairman noted.

Abu Hassan dwelt on RJ's current situation, describing the institution as a precious legacy and an aviation infrastructure well in place.

He said: "RJ is already a world class carrier in the true sense of the word. The fleet, the staff and the bilateral air rights that we enjoy across the globe are great things to write home about. Queen Alia International Airport, which is now six years old, is the quintessential of aesthetics and functionality, and will carry us comfortably for our needs beyond the year 2000. The Queen Alia Airport hotel, the hotel industry in Amman and the spas

that we enjoy in Aqaba and Ma'in, let alone those planned for the Dead Sea, demonstrate beyond question the vitality and viability of various facets of development in civil air transport and related industries.

"Parallel developments have taken place in other fields such as telecommunications, housing, education and surface transport, which make Jordan, noted for its stability and tranquility, a desirable and efficient place for expatriate firms to conduct their regional business," Abu Hassan said.

He noted that the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar "sees as a boom to tourism in Jordan."

He also referred to the economic situation by noting that "though our region has been beset by economic woes of some sort, it must be remembered that international air travel has been booming during the past eight years. We could and should become beneficiaries of this abundance because we too play the routes of abundance, but have not been receiving our rightful share. We need to double our efforts, upgrade our capabilities and conscientiously face up to our responsibilities," Abu Hassan said. "It is central to our image and performance that all departments in RJ strive towards achieving standards of excellence notwithstanding the varying degrees of success that are obtained in the process. For it is the overall view of our operations in their totality that matters most, where harmony and balance are the most important and compelling features," Abu Hassan added.

The RJ chief reminded his audience that the winds of change were sweeping the airline industry rapidly.

From deregulation to European liberalisation to airline globalisation, change is the keyword, he said. Adding: "While we embrace change as a concept, it could be unsettling to us. But true to the traditions of our founding fathers, we welcome change not for its own sake but because it is a function of our dynamism."

## Jordan observes World Food Day

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan, along with several countries will observe World Food Day Monday which this year is being held under the slogan "Food and the environment."

Jordan will continue to exert every possible effort for the protection of the local environment in a bid to increase its food production and provide a better atmosphere for its citizens, Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saket said in a statement on the eve of the occasion.

To help promote international efforts to protect the environment from pollution, Jordan joined 23 other nations last March in signing the Hague Declaration on the protection of the environment, Saket said.

"The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) this year chose the slogan "food and the environment" in order to emphasise the relationship between the two and to underline the need to protect the environment in view of its effect on future life on Earth," the minister pointed out.

This relationship, he said, "is taking a dangerous turn in the last quarter of the present century, as the world's environment is being threatened as a result of various human activities in industry and in the struggle to produce food, the minister added."

He referred to His Majesty King Hussein's address at the recent regional conference on safeguarding the future in which he noted that the world community now stands at the threshold of a war of a new kind, that of environmental pollution.

This pollution, the minister said, is tantamount to a third world war, threatening all people everywhere.

Criticising the misuse of different materials in the food production process, the minister said that such practices are causing harm to the Earth and the atmosphere and harming the people.

Saket noted that industrialised nations continue to suffer from



Bassam Al Saket

serious environmental problems, and added that for problems to be solved close international cooperation must be launched.

He said food production will require and natural resources like soil and water will be adversely affected, reducing all chances of food production in the future.

Saket reviewed Jordan's achievements and continued struggle to increase food production through the use of modern techniques and equipment.

Through afforestation, the planting of fruit trees on a wide scale, through soil preservation projects, the reclamation of the badia region and through continued control over the use of pesticides, Jordan hopes to achieve bumper outputs, the minister continued.

He said that combating pollution in all its forms requires constant and unrelenting efforts on the part of all planners, policymakers and farmers who help carry out projects.

FAO Director General Edouard Saouma issued a message on the eve of World Food Day drawing the world's attention to the fact that the Earth's inhabitants will register an alarming growth by the end of the year 2000, requiring huge increases of food supplies.

No less than 40 per cent in-

crease in food production will be required if the world is to avoid any hunger problems in the coming century, Saouma noted.

It is impossible to achieve this objective as long as the agricultural land continues to be misused and the rich soil continues to be eroded," Saouma warned.

He said that statistics show that the Earth loses 25,000 million tonnes of soil annually while different areas of the world continue to be exposed to desert encroachment, drastically reducing the chance for greater crop increases.

Saouma drew attention to the fact that some 3,500 million hectares of land, equal in area to the two Americas have been hit by desertification and that the Earth loses up to seven million hectares of cultivable land annually because of different reasons in the Third World countries alone.

Industrialisation during the 20th century increased by 80 per cent mostly in the last four decades, and this expansion has brought with it further danger to the environment represented in the waste matter, the acid rain and other poisonous material which is dumped in the sea and on the land, both of which can help increase food for the increasing population, Saouma noted.

He outlined FAO's endeavours over the past 44 years of its existence and its close cooperation with other countries and international and regional organisations to increase food production, develop fisheries and reclaim land.

We are now facing a serious problem which transcends all frontiers and which requires proper solutions at the national, regional and international levels, Saouma said in an appeal to all nations.

He said that the world community ought to launch cooperation to increase food without causing harm to soil fertility, and boost livestock wealth without turning pasture land into barren deserts.

## Mauritanian delegation end visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-member Mauritanian delegation led by the director of the Mauritanian Water and Electricity Corporation, Sunday concluded a week-long visit to Jordan, during which they held talks with Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Director General Mohammad Arafah on scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Mauritania.

Arafah discussed with the delegation the reports prepared by the JEA on the tender documents and technical specifications, sub-

mitted by international companies to connect 13 Mauritanian cities and villages with electric power.

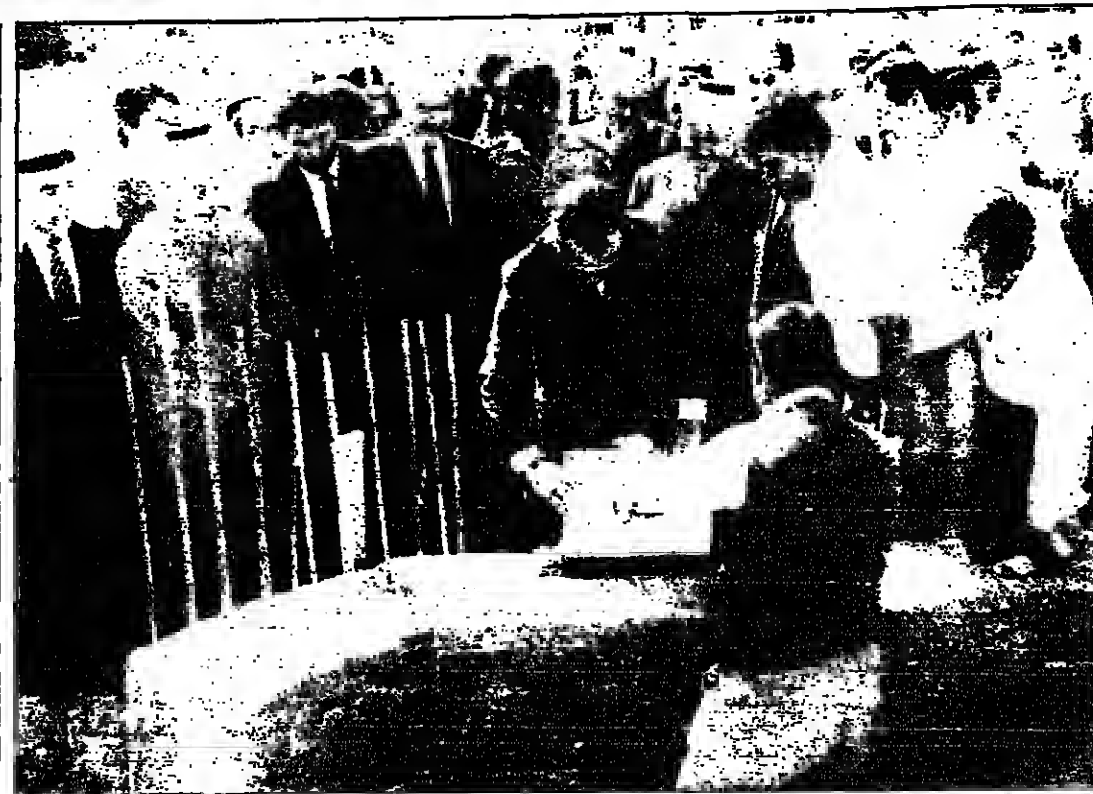
Feasibility study for the project, which will be funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, has been undertaken by the JEA, in cooperation with a Swiss consulting company.

The Mauritanian delegation has agreed to the offer made by the JEA to carry out a comprehensive study aimed at improving

the administrative, financial and technical efficiency of the Mauritanian corporation.

During its visit to Jordan, the Mauritanian delegation signed an agreement with the JEA, whereby the latter will give training to 13 Mauritanian technicians at JEA training centres.

JEA will also second one of its electric distribution network experts to the Mauritanian corporation for two years to supervise one of the electrification projects, to be carried out by the corporation.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday lays foundation stone for a new Islamic information centre for pilgrims at Al Nuzha District in Amman (Petra photo)

## Regent highlights importance of projected centre for pilgrims

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — As part of the Kingdom's celebrations of the Prophet Mohammad's Birthday anniversary, the foundation stone was laid Sunday for an Islamic centre at a ceremony organised by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

The centre, which will serve as an educational and cultural institution for pilgrims, will be established at Nuzha district of Amman.

Addressing the ceremony upon laying the corner stone, Prince Hassan underlined the importance of the projected centre which, he said, will be instrumental in providing pilgrims with essential information about the holy places in Mecca and the Muslims' duties during their performance of their rites.

"As Muslims, we need to acquire further knowledge about our faith and our responsibilities; and as a country, Jordan ought to help pilgrims obtain such knowledge which, it is hoped, will contribute towards deeper understanding by Muslims of their duties not only in performing the pilgrimage but also in bolstering ties among pilgrims in the Holy Land," Prince Hassan said in his brief address at the ceremony.

The Regent voiced Jordan's deep appreciation to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia for his continued endeavours to safeguard the holy places, and for his government's constant care to provide the best facilities and safety for the pilgrims.

Furthermore, the Crown Prince underlined the duty of giving alms to the poor through the Zakat Fund which is being operated by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

Awqaf Minister Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat addressed the ceremony pointing out that the projected centre will provide a good service to pilgrims going to Mecca for their rites. "Through this centre, the process of organising transportation and accommodation will be made for the pilgrims in Saudi Arabia."

The centre, the first of its kind in the whole region, will also be used for Islamic book exhibitions during the holy month of Ramadan and other Islamic activities around the year.

Among those attending the ceremony was Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Mas'adeh, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mobammad Mhailan as well as the under-secretary of the Iraqi Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

The centre was planned upon directives from Prince Hassan issued to the Ministry of Awqaf following his address to pilgrims going to Mecca three years ago.

According to ministry source, lectures on Islamic themes, slide shows and documentary film shows will be organised at the

centre which is expected to cost JD 700,000.

Regent receives Iraqi delegation

The Regent Sunday received an audience at the Royal Court, Mr. Mohamad Sharif, the Iraqi Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs undersecretary, and his accompanying delegation.

Discussion during the meeting centred on bilateral cooperation in religion-related affairs and Jordanian-Iraqi efforts being conducted through the ministries of Awqaf in both countries.

Prince Hassan stressed the need for the use of all available means in both countries to serve the Islamic faith in the best interest of Islam and the Muslim people in both nations.

The Regent voiced deep satisfaction with the excellent relations between Jordan and Iraq under the directives of His Majesty King Hussein and President Saddam Hussein.

Sharif, for his part, voiced his country's appreciation to Jordan for its continued support and for the close cooperation being maintained at all levels.

The ministries of Awqaf in Jordan and Iraq, he said, were going ahead with plans to implement a bilateral agreement signed recently on means of promoting religious services and enhancing the Islamic faith in the Arab region.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and the ministry's Secretary General Ahmad Hilalay.

## Public servants cautioned against campaigning

## Candidacy registration slows down

AMMAN (J.T.) — The number of candidates who registered for the Nov. 8 elections in Amman governorate rose to 228 Sunday, with only one day left for those who want to register their names as candidates.

According to official sources at the Amman governor's office, 16 candidates registered their names Sunday, while the 212 did so Saturday.

On the other end, out of 348,967 voter cards for the governorate, only 103,500 cards were collected as of Sunday.

"People tend to procrastinate. But it is alright, since they still have time because the last day to collect the cards is Oct. 31," said Ayman Khouri, an official at the

governorate.

In another development, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Sunday issued a statement forbidding all civil servants and employees of public institutions and local authorities from taking part in the election campaigns in favour of any of the candidates.

Sharif Zeid referred to Article 64 of the Election Law of 1986 and its amendments.

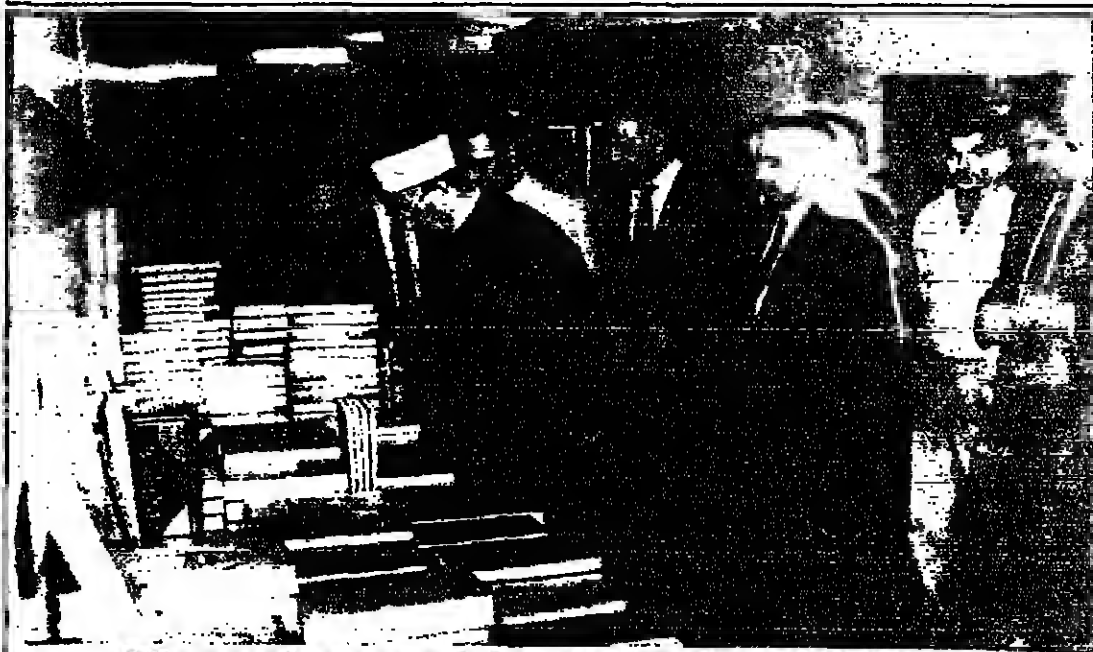
None of the personnel falling under these categories "is allowed to do any campaigning for the elections, nor interfere in the course of events during the elections in favour of any candidate by any means," the prime minister's statement said.

It asked that the order be

circulated among employees of ministries, official departments and public establishments, as well as the Armed Forces and public security personnel.

In addition, "personnel working in the fields of parliamentary elections are not allowed to take leave that would prevent them from carrying out their duties."

The governor supervising the elections in the Ministry of Interior, Salameh Hammad, was said the total number of candidates registered till midday Sunday reached 153 in Irbid governorate, 42 in Balqa, 61 in Zarqa, 64 in Karak, 28 in Ma'an, 13 in the southern bedouin region, 23 in Mafraq, 19 in the north bedouin region and 17 in Tafleeh.



## Khayyat opens Islamic book exhibition

AMMAN — Ministers of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Sunday opened an Islamic book exhibition at the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Mosque in Amman as part of the Kingdom's celebrations of the Prophet Mohammad's Birthday anniversary. The two-week ex-

hibition displays large collections of Islamic books which can be sold to the public at reduced prices. Several local publishing houses are taking part in the exhibition. Women are allowed into the mosque to inspect the displayed books only on Wednesday and Thursday. (Petra photo)

Self in life



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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### Before it is too late

THE MIDDLE East peace process is once again bogged down and stalled by Shamir's refusal to budge even an iota in favour of moving the search for peace forward. After so many political acrobatics and filibustering on the part of the Likudniks in Israel, the initial optimism generated by President Hosni Mubarak's initiative to get the Israelis and Palestinians on talking terms is once again on hold. For now, all the parties are holding their breath for the umpteenth time till Shamir makes his trip to Washington next month, hoping against hope that Washington will drive some sense into his head. So the waiting game is once again reactivated without any visible sign that Shamir's pilgrimage to the U.S. would in fact result in anything resembling a breakthrough.

But according to optimists, if Shamir returns from his American trip as expected empty-handed, the Labour faction of the Israeli cabinet would opt to quit the national coalition government with a view to precipitating early elections. Then, and only then, according to this scenario, would the peace process have a real chance to be propelled in the right direction.

There are many ifs attached to this hopeful analysis. The first one centres on the credibility of the Labourites to come through with their threat to resign from the current government. It must be recalled that Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin made many hollow threats to leave the government over issues that they termed as tantamount to stumbling blocks erected by Shamir and his colleagues in the path of the peace process. This time the Labourites are making the same kind of noise about Shamir's calculated moves to sabotage what Cairo had painstakingly put together.

The second "if" relates to the result of voting — should in fact there be general elections in Israel. If the Labour Party in Israel could emerge victorious from these projected elections, in the sense that it can form a government without the crippling effects of having the Likud on their backs, then all is well. But if the opposite occurs with the Likud still imposing its will on any future government then the peace process will once again return to square one. Meanwhile, the casualty list among the struggling Palestinians gets longer and longer without an end in sight. If this continues, there would be no escape for the Arab World from intervening in some form or another on the side of the Palestinian intifada. The implications of such a drastic step are clearly ominous and have to be entertained as more probable than not. As far-fetched as that may appear now, the events in the Middle East could very well veer into that direction. It would be prudent, therefore, for all sides to reckon with that eventuality as of now before it gets too late for the parties to defuse the situation.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies on Sunday gave wide coverage in their editorials and inside columns to the election campaign which runs up to election day Nov. 8.

Al Ra'i daily said the campaign has now started and it is being held in an atmosphere of responsibility and freedom, something which fills the hearts of all Jordanians with pride. Dialogues and display of respect to the other party's views will no doubt dominate the whole campaign, said the paper. Should all the candidates abide by the rules of democracy and responsibility there will be no doubt that the parliamentary life in Jordan will be enhanced and Jordanian citizens will be encouraged to go to the polls self-satisfied with the situation and well assured about democratic rule in their country, the paper noted. It is natural, said the paper, to expect further activity in the coming weeks and it is natural to see people expecting their aspirations to be fulfilled by the advent of the new parliament which will help enhance the spirit of democracy in the Kingdom.

The renewal of fighting between the Polisario Front and the Moroccan armed forces over the Sahara region in North Africa attracts the attention of Mahmoud Al Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday. The writer laments such development which he says adversely affect the ongoing efforts to reach a final settlement for the disputed territory. The outbreak of fighting indicates that the two sides are holding on to hardened positions rather than showing flexibility which could pave the way for a lasting solution, the writer notes. The fighting took place against a totally different backdrop, represented in the rapprochement between Algeria which had been supporting the guerrillas and Morocco which claims total sovereignty over the Sahara, the writer notes. It is surprising to hear about a renewal of clashes between the two sides while efforts are being made to bolster the concept of the Maghreb Union and as African and European and Arab countries were involved in behind-the-scenes activity to end the dispute peacefully, the writer pointed out. He points to differences among the various Polisario factions that could have been behind the decision by its leaders to resume the fighting against the Moroccan forces.

Al Dastour said that with the start of the election campaign Jordan enters a new phase of democratic practice in the long democratic process and in the spirit of the constitution. The paper said that the campaign ends a long break of democratic and parliamentary life in the Kingdom and, therefore, Jordanians are optimistic that their new endeavours will be crowned with success. The coming stage is undoubtedly a new one for the Jordanian people and their candidates for the coming parliament in view of the political, social and economic developments that occurred in the Kingdom since the last parliament was elected in 1967 and, therefore, one would naturally expect a period of reassessment and careful planning on the part of the coming Lower House before further steps in development can be taken, the paper added. The coming parliament as King Hussein said will not serve as a forum for mere political statements but real planning and real and serious work to resolve the country's numerous problems and help maintain the momentum of construction, said the paper.

### Weekly Political Pulse

## Palestinians need a concerted Arab push

By Waleed Sadi

IT MUST be clear by now to all concerned parties that the so-called peace process in the Middle East is going around in circles. Perhaps the circles are getting smaller, but they are still circles nevertheless. No sooner the parties get close to a breakthrough than the process fumbles on a new pessimistic note. And then the cycle of diplomacy gets kicked off once again only to end up as usual without fruition. This time around, therefore, will not be any different, and sooner than later the Arab side will discover that its faith and trust in the elusive peace efforts were misplaced. Yet, fresh attempts are made all the time to reactivate the search for peace on the heel of every failure with hope against hope that a breakthrough could be pulled out of the blue.

The only thing going now in support of the quest for a permanent settlement of the Palestinian conflict is the intifada. Still, it would be utterly irresponsible to pin all hopes on the uprising to pull off a reasonable deal with Israel. The Palestinian insurgency alone cannot achieve what the entire Arab World has failed to achieve. As is, it is, by and large, an orphaned Palestinian effort lacking solid support and missing complementary Arab action. Whoever thought that the entire Arab World would continue to be watchful of the intifada, albeit with admiration and hand clapping, well into its 23 month! Maybe this Arab aloofness has a background based on the Arab supposition that the Palestinian side has chosen to go it alone and therefore should be left alone to accomplish the mission impossible. In other words, the Palestinianisation of the Middle East conflict and the centrality of the Palestinian people in the conflict have led the Arab World to leave the Palestinian party basically alone in their struggle with the Arabs' number one enemy Israel. Maybe some

would suggest that the Palestinians have brought this state of affairs upon themselves by playing the Palestinian card more prominently than has been the case before. But, even if one accepts to entertain this postulation, emergence of the Palestinian element to the forefront of the struggle in the context of the Palestinian conflict should not have led to the present situation where most of the Arab countries are left as spectators. There must be a fresh effort therefore to reactivate the Arab countries' involvement in the Palestinian case with a view to bolstering and fortifying the Palestinian efforts to assist in finding a permanent settlement to their dimension of the broader Arab-Israeli conflict.

There are many ways available to the Arab countries to enhance their involvement in the Palestine situation, but staying on the periphery is not one of them. To begin with, the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip cannot be expected to hold out on their own indefinitely and many action-oriented measures need to be adopted to help them. And one does not think only in terms of financial and economic aid but rather in political and politically related areas with a view to raising the Israeli cost in fighting the Palestinians under occupation. As things stand now, Israel is killing off an average of two to four Palestinians a day and wounding scores of others without feeling any heat from the Arab World or the international community. It must be accepted that Israeli leaders have succeeded in stifling international and regional concern for the Palestinians who are being eliminated on a daily and routine basis without causing as much as a blink among them. International mass media have also relegated the news about the intifada to the backburner and we all know that that was the advice offered by

Henry Kissinger to Israel and the Zionist forces in the West. Of all people Kissinger knows only too well and remembers very well that what brought an end to the Vietnam war was bringing it to the American home by television and other mass media methods. If the Arab World can succeed to bring back the intifada to Western television screens as was the case before Kissinger intervened to halt that practice on behalf of Israel, the beginning of the end of the Palestinian conflict would materialise. In other words, a more concerted effort must be exerted by the Arab countries to disseminate audio-visual information on the Palestinian conflict worldwide and to invest the necessary capital for that purpose. There is always the hope that even the Israeli public opinion would begin to shift in favour of reasonable accommodation with the Palestinian people have they opportunity to see and feel the anguish of the Palestinian people under occupation exactly the way the American people saw the Vietnam war on their screen.

Come to think of it, even Arab mass media have also become derelict in its duties to highlight the Palestinian struggle and often give the impression of indifference to the lot of their brethren under Israeli occupation. Arab press and television appear to have lost their original stamina to expose the Israeli oppression in the occupied territories and this unfortunate state of affairs calls for rectification as a matter of urgency.

The list of other actions that the Arab countries can undertake is indeed long and perhaps a special conference could be convened for that purpose. Whatever it is there is a lot more that the Arab countries can do to rescue the struggling Palestinians from oppression.

### Israeli politics

## Labour labours loudly over peace process

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post

By Dan Petreanu

ONCE AGAIN the Labour Party is threatening to leave the government. Now that the Likud has rejected the Egyptian proposals to advance the peace process, the moment of truth has finally arrived, say party leaders again. To remain a part of this government if it turns out the Likud has torpedoed yet another peace initiative — this time, its own — would be really, truly, terminally unacceptable.

It may not be a bluff.

Of course, Labour leaders know that they have lost credibility in this matter. The party has used the threat to bolt the government too often. And Prime Minister Shamir treats Labour's warnings with commensurate contempt. In response to Labour's latest grumblings, he has even indicated that new elections would be just fine if Labour insisted. But the last thing Shamir wants is destabilisation of all he has achieved with the unity government.

Diplomatically, only the present arrangement will allow him to pursue a peace plan that is as potentially harmless (from the Likud's point of view) and as potentially viable (from the point of view of the U.S. and Labour) as the excruciatingly slow, two-stage process he outlined in his "diplomatic initiative."

Just the deliberations on the means (elections in the territories) of advancing towards the first stage (autonomy) are likely to take a year, say his aides. If a non-PLO delegation with whom he can deliberate ever materialises, that is.

Politically, only the unity government enables Shamir to cast aside his ambitious colleagues in the Likud (Sharon, Levy and Moda'i) while advancing, in the framework of Likud's reduced cabinet representation, the cause of those he views as potential successors — be it Arens of the

current generation, or any of the "princes" of the next.

Shamir calculates, correctly, that the relatively moderate-looking Arens, or the apparently cerebral Peres, would maximise the Likud's potential of attracting votes from the centrist, "rational" voters that have mostly eluded the Likud. True, such leaders at the head of the Likud might scare away the right-wing hard core of its supporters. But under the present system these will remain in the bloc. The extreme right might turn to Mofet or Tebiya, and the Sephardi "traditionalist" strain might incline further towards Shas. In any case, the Likud still assumes that the present fuse, too, shall pass. Labour's record in this government indeed encourages cynicism: after initially rejecting the idea of playing junior partner in a Likud government, it changed its mind after President Herzog's "appeal" for unity (and after the separate appeals of kibbutzim and the Histadrut).

In July, after Shamir surrendered to his party's hard-liners and imposed "constraints" on the government's initiative, Labour voted to withdraw, only to find satisfaction a few weeks later in a largely meaningless "reaffirmation" of the initiative. And Labour's very vocal and dovish Knesset faction, which has been calling for a withdrawal from the government virtually since its inception, has been outvoted again and again by the party's non-nonsense central committee of Histadrut functionaries and special-interest representatives.

Besides, Shamir reasons, at this point Labour will not risk elections, from which it will almost certainly emerge in worse shape. And Peres, although doubtless anxious to relieve himself of the thankless burden of the Treasury, will prefer not to foster in the opposition, almost certain-

ly a political death sentence for him.

All this is true. Which is why Labour will only bolt if it knows that it can form a narrow government — either immediately or in the wake of a Likud-led transition government. Increasingly, there are indications that this is exactly what the party has in mind.

Peres, especially. For he knows that a narrow government is his best chance of returning to the premiership. A lengthy spell in opposition, or early elections, would almost certainly lead for a move to replace him with either Rabin (likely in the short term) or one of several younger challengers (likely if the process drags out until 1992, as planned).

There is widespread agreement in the party that although Peres is the best man it has for the job of premier, he has proven himself unworkable. While there is no guarantee that he would be defeated in the central committee — a possible majority of its members may still be personally loyal to him — he would certainly prefer to avoid facing the question of whether to choose the party interest over his own.

To be sure, the coalition agreement stipulates that elections are the only available course in case of a government collapse. If one of the partners bolts, both parties must join in an early elections bill. This clause was inserted at Shamir's insistence, to discourage Peres from engaging in coalition negotiations before their time.

Some Labour ministers note privately that the agreement does not require faction discipline to be imposed, meaning that there is no guarantee that all the members of both parties would support it. If the early-elections motion falls, then technically all options are open: the unity government would become a transitional one, and coalition negotiations would begin anew.

Peres' associates have been working overtime in order to come up with a plausible defence for violating the clause and avoiding this unpredictable scenario



altogether. Several arguments are being toyed with already.

First, it is maintained, the election process would lead to a several-month freeze in the diplomatic process, in which invaluable momentum would be lost. Second, new elections under the existing electoral system are unlikely to meaningfully alter the balance of power in the Knesset, meaning that the inevitable haggling with the religious parties would only be delayed, not avoided. Third, there is no precedent in Israel for holding general elections less than one year apart. Fourth, says one Labour minister, "we could produce a very long list of cases in which the Likud has violated the coalition agreement."

Most of Labour's backbenchers — including some who publicly advocate coalition blackmail on the peace issue — have privately indicated to party leaders that they would support a move that would enable them to maintain their Knesset posts. Many of the newer parliamentarians feel that one year has not afforded them enough time to make the kind of impact that would guarantee them a return ticket to the Knesset.

Proponents of a narrow government with the ultra-Orthodox argue that these parties have already signalled that they want

to avoid new elections — in which they may well fall short of their impressive 1988 tally of 13 mandates (Shas 6, Agudat Yisrael 5, Degel Hatorah 2). In particular, Peres is looking hopefully towards Shas, whose Arye Deri has struck up a fine rapport with him and is known to harbour dovish views (as does his mentor, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef).

For the narrow-government scenario to take place, Peres must be able to prove to the religious parties (and to Rabin) that the diplomatic initiative has been killed by the Likud. Its burial, as far as Peres is concerned, will take place only when Shamir returns from his planned trip to the U.S. in mid-November. Not by coincidence, this falls just after the Nov. 13 elections in the Histadrut, where Labour fears it would be harmed by a diplomatic crisis.

If the U.S. permits Shamir to return home without signs of progress, there is a fair chance that Labour will actually make good on its threat. Peres's political career depends on it. And, in anything that doesn't involve winning votes from ordinary people, Peres is nothing if not a masterful politician.

## Time for honest thinking

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — This is the time of year, the High Holy Days, when Jews are supposed to look into themselves, reflect on what has been and commit themselves to what should be. In 1989 it should be a time for honest thinking about the future of Israel.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud colleagues have just said no to a gentle suggestion by President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt on how to get a peace process going.

Their no told us as clearly as anything has where Israel is heading under its present leadership. Ten or 20 years from now, if it stays on that path, it will be this kind of country:

- It will be a Jewish state in which Arabs are nearly half the population and will soon be more than half. Jews will maintain political control because Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza have no political rights.
- It will be a garrison state. The only way to retain control over the occupied territories will be by increasing military force and increasing abandonment of the rule of civilised law.
- It will be a brutalised state. Imprisoning Palestinians by the thousands without trial, deporting them without evidence, shooting children — all this and

more will have become part of normal life.

• It will be an isolated state. The one link to Arab neighbours, the treaty with Egypt, will have frayed or broken by then. Some of the isolation will be self-imposed: Israelis who even talk with Palestinian leaders will be jailed.

"Some doubted (Shamir's) sincerity when he came up with the idea of May 14. I did not, but I see no reason now to think he was serious."

- It will be a dependent state. Dependence on U.S. aid for economic existence, which grew during the 1980s, will by now be overwhelming — if American taxpayers are still willing to bear the heavy burden.

That future is a necessary consequence of the choice Mr. Shamir and his government have made. They chose the status quo indefinitely. Mr. Mubarak leaned way over backward to please Mr. Shamir, but the idea that Israeli and Palestinian delegates meet in Cairo was rejected

because it might conceivably lead to a change in the status quo. It might develop movement toward Palestinian rights.

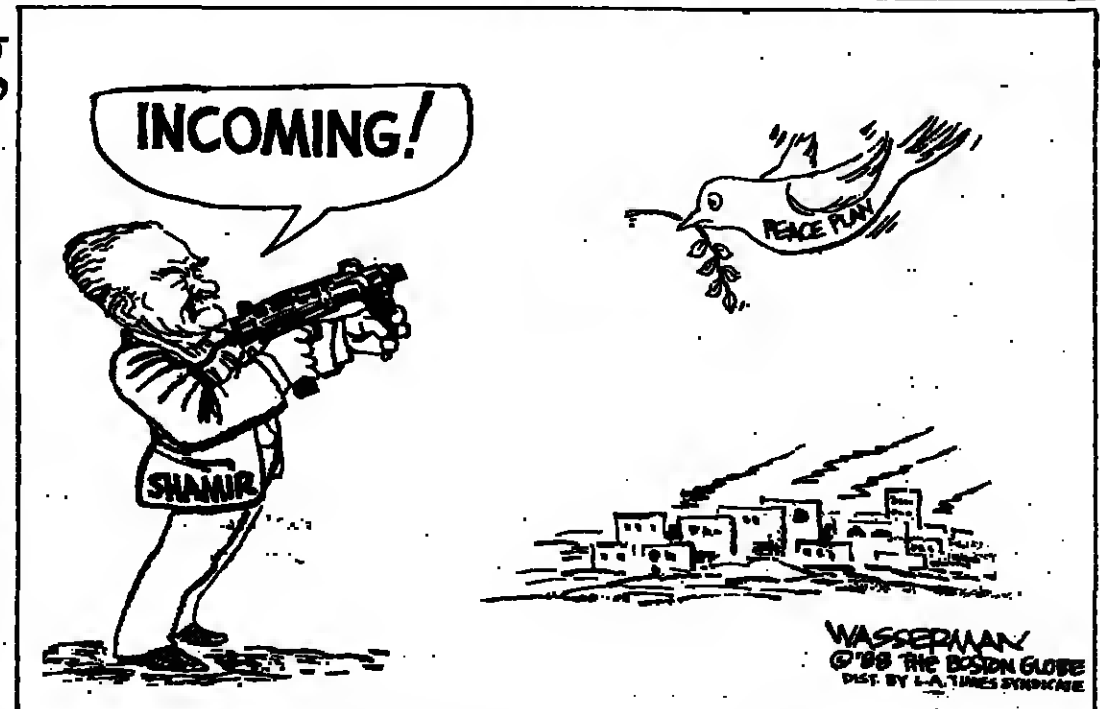
The talks in Cairo would only have been to flesh out a proposal made by Mr. Shamir himself: for Palestinians in the occupied territories to elect representatives who would negotiate with Israel. Some doubted his sincerity when he came up with the idea on May 14. I did not, but I see no reason now to think he was serious.

After rejecting the Mubarak invitation, Mr. Shamir said there could still be other ideas to follow up. But such talk is a familiar tactic. It is designed to create an illusion of hope that covers the reality of Mr. Shamir's determination to do nothing.

Clarity is the one gain from the decision in Jerusalem. It is clear now where responsibility rests for the lack of progress towards peace. It rests on the government of Israel.

Objectively, the prospects for peace have never been brighter. Palestinians have found a voice at last for negotiation and compromise. The PLO has recognised Israel and, in the many months since that historic decision, refrained from terrorism. But the government of Israel says no.

The clarity of the situation has consequences in the United



States. It requires a response from American Jews and from the American government.

The Jewish community in America is concerned about where Israel is heading. Many American Jews, probably most, are opposed to the Shamir policy of holding on to the West Bank and Gaza forever by force, with all the self-brutalising consequences.

But the voice of the community is muted. The major Jewish organisations do not speak out critically about the Shamir policy.

They do not say what many believe: that the rejection of Mr. Mubarak, the refusal to talk with Palestinians are steps that threaten the future of Israel.

The reluctance is understandable. The Jewish organisations have to work with the Israeli government that is. Their constituents worry about anything that looks disloyal.

But when the life and character of Israel are at stake, those are not adequate excuses. Honesty is required.

President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker have muted their voices, too. They worry about the short-term political risks of openly disagreeing with an Israeli government.

But in the longer term, they must know, Americans will become restless about supporting an Israel that rejects the chance of peace. It is in the true interest of Israel for the United States to speak out about the danger of an isolated, embattled future — *The New York Times*.



## Pulling no punches

By Haya Hussein

## Writers

I HAD a nine-year-old student who wanted to become a writer. He said Miss, miss, miss...

I said, get to the point.  
I want to be a writer, Miss.  
I taunted him, your parents won't let you.

Actually, the boy had a great deal of wit, self-imposed, I think, since the parents were fairly grim. But he wrote quite well and I told him so.

Those children had tremendous talents for creative writing. They would omit all hints of punctuation, their sentences were incoherent; ideas were laid out haphazardly; action was disorderly and confused; characters inconsistent and irrational.

And they were writers, in the sullied classroom of that year, they were writers, poets, philosophers, scientists; they laughed at Marco Polo, revered the stars, laboured over Egyptology, abused their mathematical elements and mistook Ginn sociology to be part-fantasy.

Did I remember James Joyce's chaotic structure, Garcia Marquez and Muriel Spark's metaphysical characters, Penelope Lively's muddled events?

Originality in effluence. That was what I taught that year.

And one boy said, Miss, my mother wants to know why we're out doing grammar.

So I got masterpieces like:

Fear

I run so quickly

My face is hiding

The scary bird is behind me

So I stop

And I ask him to show me the way

(a nine-year-old)

and

My Grandfather

My grandfather sits and sits, too

He also wears pyjamas sometimes

Sometimes he gets angry over his soup

Sometimes he gives me money

Sometimes I laugh, and my mother loves him.

(An eight-year-old)

One day I told the children that I would write an essay with them too.

You, Miss?

Yes, I got into a thinking attitude.

The children smiled, You, Miss?

So I ended up not writing with them. And from amidst their jubilant denunciations against me, I heard a girl say, don't be so mean, let her write.

I thank her for her mercy. To these children I am indebted, for one thing I learnt: children do love adults, I know they loved me, but they do not think highly of them: or of their actions or of what they write.

The nine-year-old who wanted to become a writer said to me, a week later,

Miss, miss, miss,

I said, stop missing me.

Miss, I want to be a pilot.

Oh? I thought...

That was last week, he said irritably, as though I should have known.

I should have known.

His mother came to see me one day. She said her son's English wasn't improving.

I said his writing style was good.

She said his spelling was awful.

I said his imagination was excellent.

His handwriting was bad, she pointed out.

I told her he wanted to become a pilot.

She went away, appeased, and even thanked me.

Miss, what's another word for happy?

Pleased?

It seemed to suit her:

As pleased as a potato

As happy as a hippo

They got into their cars

And swam to Aleppo.

Meanwhile, his mother gave him spelling tests at home to prepare for his aviatorial and aerotechnical future. She didn't know that a week later her son decided to invest his efforts and intellect into pursuing a life-long career in alien-hunting.

That suits you best, I said and he went back to his desk to write about it.

By Michael Balter

PARIS — Do relatively low exposures to toxic chemicals, pesticides or radiation pose a threat of cancer, birth defects, or other diseases? If you put this question to an environmental activist and to the head of a corporation subject to environmental regulatory laws, you would probably get two different answers. Yet the issue of environmental risk has become a significant controversy, debated in newspaper opinion columns, government agency hearing rooms and, increasingly in the courts.

In the United States, the past two years have brought a rash of media reports about environmental concerns, from the hazard that pesticides such as Alar might pose for children, to the possible dangers of electromagnetic radiation produced by power lines and electric blankets. While some cynical observers have dubbed this phenomenon the "chemical of the week" syndrome, regulatory agencies have found themselves increasingly caught between environmentalists demanding stricter controls and industry representatives reluctant to spend money eliminating exposures that may prove to be harmless.

Adding to the confusion is the fact that scientists themselves often do not agree on how best to assess the risks from environmental agents. In the past few years, however, a number of laboratories in North America and Europe have begun developing techniques that may allow researchers to measure directly, at the level of the DNA of living cells, the damage caused by chemicals and radiation. These approaches make up a new field that some scientists have called "molecular epidemiology."

In the past, risk assessment has relied heavily on studies in which animals, usually rats and mice, are fed relatively high doses of the chemicals being tested. The results are then extrapolated, using complex mathematical mod-

els, down to the levels at which humans are likely to be exposed. Because the results are highly theoretical, they have been an easy mark for criticism from both sides of the controversy.

"We need to find a way to do risk determination," said William Thilly of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "instead of risk guessing."

The new methodology employs a variety of "biological markers" to detect genetic damage, which is thought to be a precursor to cancer and birth defects. One that seems to be especially promising is the human gene called HPRT, which contains the genetic code for an enzyme involved in DNA synthesis.

The technique was worked out originally by Richard Albertini of the University of Vermont and Alec Morley of Flinders Medical Centre in Bedford Park, South Australia. A simple chemical test, using the T-cells (a type of lymphocyte, or white blood cell) from human donors, can distinguish HPRT genes that have been inactivated by mutations from those that are still functional. A normal adult has a very low level of T-cells with mutant HPRT genes, but people who are known to have been exposed to genedamaging agents show measurable increases in their mutant frequency.

For example according to studies by researchers at the University of Sussex, in Brighton, England, smokers have about a 50 per cent higher frequency of HPRT mutants than non-smokers.

"This is a remarkable coincidence," says Bryn Bridges, head of the university's Cell Mutation Unit. "The relative risk of leukemia (cancer of the leukocytes, of which the lymphocytes are one type) among smokers is 50 per cent higher, and here we have data showing that the relative risk for mutation of lymphocytes in smokers is 50 per cent higher, too."

Early results with the HPRT

test indicate that exposures previously thought to be low can lead to measurable genetic damage. Karen Messing and co-workers at the University of Quebec in Montreal, studied the mutant frequencies of a group of radio-therapy and nuclear medicine technicians at Quebec's Notre Dame Hospital. They found that, compared to a control group, the technicians had significantly higher levels of mutant T-cells.

What may make these techniques even more promising is their potential to provide clues about the identities of the culprits responsible for gene damage.

Barry Glickman and his colleagues at York University in Toronto have chemically analyzed thousands of mutations of a gene found in a common gut bacterium called *Escherichia coli*.

"We have demonstrated the absolute uniqueness of each kind of treatment we have used, chemical or physical. These agents are leaving recognisable footprints," Mr. Glickman said.

Preliminary work with mammalian cells has given similar results. "If you look at mutations in people," Glickman said, "you should be able to sprout some wisdom about what caused them."

Mr. Thilly's research group at MIT has developed a method which might make it much easier to distinguish between different mutation-causing substances. They have found that double-stranded DNA molecules differing by only one molecular subunit can be identified using a technique that causes the strands to pull apart when subjected to a chemical and electrical gradient. Depending on the location and type of damage to the DNA, the strands separate at different times, leading to characteristic "mutation spectra." So far, each chemical used has produced a

different pattern. Researchers in this field caution, however, that molecular epidemiology may never be able to determine with certainty that a particular person was exposed to a particular chemical. Mr. Glickman, for example, believes that it may prove most useful in occupational settings, in which a number of workers are exposed to the same things.

"Where we will be able to say something is with people in the nuclear, automotive, or chemical industries, where there is a relatively high concentration of a limited number of substances."

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# Sports

## Speelman defeats Timman

LONDON (AP) — John Speelman of England scored a crushing 30-move victory with the black pieces over Jan Timman of the Netherlands in the seventh round of their world chess championship semifinal Saturday to tie the score at 3.5-3.5 with one game remaining.

In the other semifinal, former world champion Anatoly Karpov held on to draw his sixth game with fellow Soviet Artur Yusupov in 46 moves to keep the score level at 3-3.

Speelman's dramatic fight back follows poor play in his first six games and came at a time when observers were beginning to write off his chances in the eight-game contest.

"Jon played just like his old self," said an ecstatic Jonathan Tisdall, an international master who is Speelman's chief second. "As soon as he had a chance he played sharply and very aggressively."

Despite playing with the advantage of the white pieces, Karpov, who was world champion from 1975 until 1985, drifted into an unfavourable endgame where experts said Yusupov missed two chances to win his second game in a row and go ahead in the contest.

"I've never seen Karpov play so badly," commented British grandmaster Tony Miles.

The winner of the candidates' cycle will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov for his title in a 24-game duel beginning October 1990. The winning semifinalists will face off in the candidates' final next March.

In either contest ends in a 4-4 tie, a two game "mini match" will be played, followed if necessary by sudden death tiebreakers played at increasingly high speeds.

A win scores one point and a draw a half.

## Lendl wins Australian indoor title

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Ivan Lendl beat Swedish qualifier Lars Wahlgren in straight sets Sunday to win the \$492,500 Australian indoor tennis championship for the third time.

The Czech-born world no. 1 dominated every facet of the final, winning 6-2, 6-2, 6-1 in one hour, 47 minutes against an opponent ranked 222nd in the world.

Wahlgren, 23, who had not made it past the first round of any major tournament this year and who was playing in the first grand prix final of his career, fought hard but lacked the weaponry to extend Lendl.



Ivan Lendl

Lendl, 29, disputed a number of line calls with umpire Bruno Reubeuf of France, but never looked like losing his grip.

He recorded the 82nd grand prix tournament win of his career and his ninth this year.

Lendl earned \$75,000 for his victory in the 32-draw event and also clinched \$800,000 for winning the Nabisco grand prix series bonus pool.

Wahlgren collected \$37,500, easily surpassing his total earnings for the rest of the year.

Lendl set the pattern for the match by breaking Wahlgren's serve in the opening game and racing through the first set in 27 minutes.

contest. He recorded 16 aces, 18 outright forehand winners and won 82 per cent of points on his first serve.

"It's always good to win and I haven't won a final that easily for some time," Lendl said. "Wahlgren lacks a big weapon. He doesn't hurt players enough."

Wahlgren beat third-seeded West German Carl-Uwe Steeh and defending champion Slobodan Zivojnovic on his way to the final and gave himself the motivation to continue as a professional tennis player.

He had been considering retirement earlier this year after a series of disappointing results.

"I may have lost the final but I can't be too disappointed," Wahlgren said. "I have just had the greatest week of my life."

The Swede, who is only ranked 20th in his homeland, hopes to gain a wild card entry into the upcoming grand prix tournament in Stockholm.

"I've got to relax a bit and think about my future," he said. "I've been in heaven all week."

Lendl went through the tournament without dropping a set. No player took more than six games from him and he now has a 71-6 record for the year.

"He was just too tough, too strong for me," Wahlgren said.

## WORLD GYMNASTICS

## Artemov earns highest marks

STUTTGART, West Germany (R) — Olympic champion Vladimir Artemov became the first man to earn marks of 9.90 at the Stuttgart world gymnastics championships Sunday as he put the Soviet men well ahead in their defence of the team title.

Artemov, who won gold medals in the all-round, parallel bars and horizontal bar events at the Seoul Olympics, took the individual lead after scoring a total of 58.90 in the compulsory exercises of the team event on the second day of the championships.

With four other Soviet men in the top eight and European champion Igor Korobchinsky still to perform in the final group, the term looked confident of holding onto the title they have won at four of the last five championships.



Artemov performing in Seoul

Artemov, who collected 9.90 for the floor exercise and the horizontal bar, was followed in the interim standings by European all-round silver medalist Valentin Mogilny, who performed Saturday.

Olympic team gold medalist Vladimir Novikov and Vitaly Marinich shared third place with East German Sven Tippelt, winner of one silver and two bronze medals in Seoul.

Tipelt's high marks, which included 9.80 on the floor and pommel horse, and a good showing from world joint vault champion Sylvio Kroll put the East Germans in a good position to fight China for the silver medal.

China have sent a young, mostly inexperienced team to the 25th world championships but newcomers Li Chunyang and Li Jing have provided excellent support for the better-known Wang Chongsheng. All three were placed in the top 10 after five of the six groups of gymnasts had completed the compulsory exercises.

After Sunday's final group of compulsory exercises the teams will compete in optional routines Monday and Tuesday.

Marks of individual gymnasts are used as a qualifying standard for the all-round final and the six apparatus finals.

Soviets take lead

On Saturday, new girl Elena Sazonenkova eclipsed her better-known teammate Svetlana Baitova as the Soviet Union took an early lead in their bid to win back the women's team title at the world gymnastics championships.

Sazonenkova scored nothing less than 9.837 in the compulsory exercises on the opening day of the championships and took first place in the individual standings with 39.399 points.

With Baitova, a team gold medalist at the Seoul Olympics last year, close behind in the points tally, the Soviet women looked confident of winning back the title they ceded to Romania two years ago.

Their male counterparts were celebrating too after opening the defence of their team title in style with Valentin Mogilny turning in the finest performance of the opening day and his two teammates filling the second and third spots in the standings.

The Soviet women's cause in the five-day team event was helped by a dismal start from reigning world all-round champion Aurelia Dohre whose form has suffered since she underwent knee surgery before the Olympics.

The 16-year-old Dohre, who also won gold for the team event and the balance beam in Rotterdam two years ago, earned only 8.925 on the uneven bars after losing her grip and falling as she swung from the low to the high bar.

Though Dohre recovered her poise and her smile in the floor exercise, earning a useful 9.80, and collected 9.837 for her vault, the Romanians still lagged behind.

Under a new scheme, half the men of each team perform the compulsory exercises Saturday and half Sunday.

Vladimir Novikov, who won a team gold at the Olympics, earned marks of 9.80 on the floor and horizontal bar to move into second place while Valeri Belyukhin was lying third.

At the close of the first day of the compulsory exercises, the Soviet team led 1983 world champions China by 174.80 points to 171.70 with Japan in third place.

China, after the retirement of world rings joint champion Li Ning, had been pessimistic about their chances with a revamped team in Stuttgart.

But 19-year-old newcomer Li Jing gave them hope with a mark of 9.75 on the pommel horse and fourth place in the individual standings at the end of the day.

The individual results are used as qualifying marks for the all-round competitions Thursday and Friday.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
- ♠ 7 ♣ KJ93 ♦ AQ10762 ♠ AK
- The bidding has proceeded:
- North South West North
- 1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
- 2 ♠ Pass ?
- What do you bid now?
- A.—There's no scientific way to probe for any of the key cards you need for game. As little as the queen of hearts or king of diamonds could be enough for game, so you might as well up and bid it. Four hearts.
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
- ♠ 632 ♣ 10873 ♦ 954 ♠ AQ9
- The bidding has proceeded:
- North East South West
- 1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
- 2 ♠ Pass ?
- What action do you take?
- A.—As responder, it's your responsibility to guide your side to its best spot. The quality of your support is not as important as the combined length of your side's trump suit. You know partner has at least five spades, but he might have only four clubs. Correct to two spades.
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
- ♠ 962 ♦ AK8762 ♣ KJ9 ♠ 7
- The bidding has proceeded:
- North East South West
- 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
- 2 ♠ Pass ?
- What do you bid now?
- A.—Your side has at least an eight-card spade fit, while you do not know whether partner has any hearts at all. Since your combined assets should be enough for game, and you have an adequate fit, bid four spades.
- Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
- ♠ 762 ♣ 854 ♦ AKJ108 ♠ 63
- Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
- A.—If you're an avid point-counter, you will claim that with 8 HCP you have enough only for an invitational raise to two no trump. That does not take into account the playing strength of your diamonds. You rate to provide four or five tricks for partner, so your hand is worth a raise to three no trump.
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
- ♠ QJ93 ♦ AQ76 ♣ J105 ♠ 74
- Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
- A.—If you and your partner play limit raises, this is an acceptable jump to three hearts. But if that would be forcing in your methods, you have to make a temporizing bid of one spade and then jump raise hearts at your next turn. That secondary jump is no longer forcing.
- Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
- ♠ AJ98 ♣ K63 ♦ Q82 ♠ A107
- The bidding has proceeded:
- North East South West
- 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
- 2 ♠ Pass ?
- What do you bid now?
- A.—You have the values for game, but don't even think about three no trump with such a tenuous diamond stopper. Since partner surely has five hearts on this auction, go straight to four hearts. Don't worry about your balanced hand—partner's holding is unbalanced.

## THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitman

ACROSS

- Sand
- Shrimp's state
- Sentry word
- Ebb or neap
- Right-hand page
- Lamb
- Location
- Sing softly
- Quick letter?
- Handlight alert
- Transgression
- Sound of rebuke
- Pouch
- Sports gp.
- Funny convey.
- "... Lay Dying"
- Succulent plant
- Botanical cone
- Cebu play
- "The ... of a Faun"
- Swelling
- Top's shakas
- Lawyer's abbr.
- Corn unit
- Zappin
- 201
- 5 and 10: abbr.
- Citation
- Herring kin
- Tatum —
- Breathing sound
- Blk
- Flavor
- Charity
- Equal
- Penetrates
- Pesty insect

DOWN

- Headliner
- Employ
- Branchid
- Booze
- Forming a band of sparks
- Withered
- Freight boat
- Molecule part
- Warning
- Courage
- Tao
- 10
- Mythomaniac
- Facet
- Blip
- Cuban dance
- Casual e.p.
- High up
- Water birds
- Scarl
- Threeword
- Computer language
- Glove stuff
- "Upon the ... when it ..."
- out a living
- Ring decision
- Caravanary
- Prop up
- Poison remedy
- Wapiti horn
- King: Fr.
- Fragment wood
- 32 Junk
- Blotter
- Party couch
- "And eternity — hour"
- (Stake)
- Aerie
- Portul
- Cabbage type
- "Dance under the ..."
- Assay
- Drunk deity

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

- ASSAY
- PORTUL
- CABBAGE
- DRUNK
- DEITY
- ASSAY
- PORTUL
- CABBAGE
- DRUNK
- DEITY

DOWN

- ASSAY
- PORTUL
- CABBAGE
- DRUNK
- DEITY
- ASSAY
- PORTUL
- CABBAGE
- DRUNK
- DEITY

## McEnroe, Connors meet in Toulouse

TOULOUSE, France (AP) — John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors headed toward their 33rd meeting as they took semifinal victories Saturday in the \$255,000 Toulouse grand prix tennis tournament.

McEnroe, the top seed, breezed past No. 4 seed Horst Skoff of Austria, 6-1, 6-3, after the second-seeded Connors dropped the first set but rebounded to beat the Soviet Union's Andrei Chesnokov 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.

The first time Connors and McEnroe met was in the 1977 Wimbledon semifinal when Connors won in four sets. McEnroe was an 18-year-old qualifier for the all-England tournament.

The last time was in August 1987 in the quarterfinal of the

Canadian Open, where Connors won in three sets.

Connors is looking forward to another meeting. "It could go 6-3, 6-3, but it's always a war out there," Connors said of a match against McEnroe, who had won 10 straight against Connors before 1987.

McEnroe is eager to play Connors again. "I know he's the older player and he's like a living legend," McEnroe said. "But if I play well I should win. But he knows how to pace himself and can be tough."

McEnroe played extremely well against Skoff with the Americans serve-and-volley game giving Skoff difficulty.

"My game was on and I was attacking his service," McEnroe said.

But things changed quickly as Connors, ranked 14th in the world compared to Chesnokov's No. 18, raced to 5-0 leads in the second and third set and coasted to the victory.

"In the second set I was able to get in and penetrate more," Connors said.

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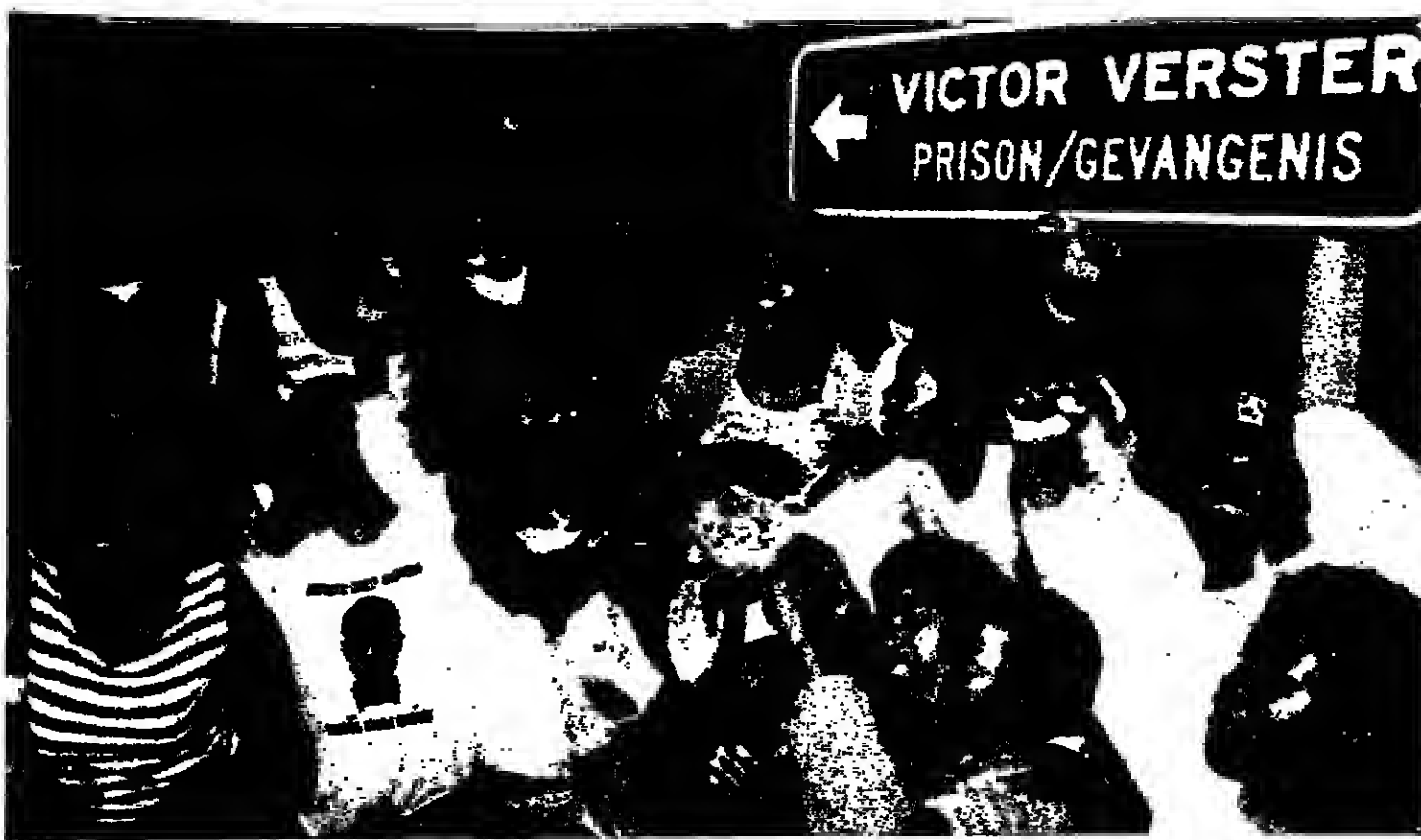
## PLAZA

### SUMMER JOB

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30







A crowd of supporters of jailed nationalist Nelson Mandela react with jubilation outside Victor Verster prison in Pietermaritzburg after hearing the news of the release of Mandela's colleagues.

## Pretoria frees eight prominent prisoners

**SOWETO, South Africa (AP)** — Walter Sisulu, senior leader of the African National Congress (ANC) and colleague of Nelson Mandela, was freed at dawn Sunday after 26 years in prison. Seven other anti-apartheid prisoners also were released unconditionally.

Sisulu, white-haired and bespectacled at 77, arrived under police escort at his home in Soweto and embraced his wife, Albertina. Youths who had been waiting for Sisulu lifted the black nationalist atop their shoulders before he went inside.

"I feel very well," Sisulu told reporters. "I am inspired."

President F.W. de Klerk announced the impending release of the eight last week as part of his attempt to improve political conditions for negotiating a new constitution that would include some political rights for blacks.

Mandela, the outlawed ANC's most prominent leader, remains in prison, although his release within the next few months is widely expected.

Freed along with Sisulu early Sunday were six more ANC leaders and Jafa Masemola, 58, of the Pan Africanist Congress, a smaller guerrilla movement.

Four of the ANC members were arrested in 1963 and sentenced to life prison terms in 1964 for sabotage along with Sisulu and Mandela: Andrew Mlangeni, 63; Elias Mosekaleli, 65; Ahmed Kathrada, 60, and Raymond Mhlaba, 68.

The group also includes ANC leaders Wilton Mkwayi, 67, who was sentenced to a life prison term for sabotage in a separate 1964 trial, and 80-year-old ANC activist Oscar Mpethe, who had been hospitalized in Cape Town.

Mpethe, the country's oldest political prisoner, was serving a five-year prison term for terrorism. He was fitted with an artificial limb after a leg was amputated while in prison, and he rose from his wheelchair Sunday by himself into his small home near Cape Town.

Masemola, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1963 for sabotage, suffered from depression while in jail and probably would need psychiatric counseling, his wife, Praises, told reporters.

All seven ANC leaders were scheduled to appear at a Sunday evening news conference in Soweto, the huge black township on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

Sisulu, who arrived home in a gray suit and blue tie, emerged after about three hours to speak to reporters and give a clenched-fist salute to a crowd of 300 jubilant well-wishers outside his home, some waving ANC flags.

Asked if he had feared he might die in prison, Sisulu said: "I was quite prepared for death. However, I knew the pressure was building, and that sooner or later they would have to give in. It was not possible to despair."

Sisulu conferred at his home with several anti-apartheid leaders who have been making arrangements for the prisoners' homecoming. These included Cyril Ramaphosa, leader of the National Union of Mine Workers, and Murphy Morobe, a senior official of the banned United Democratic Front coalition.

Several of the freed ANC leaders also are expected to apply for

passports to travel to Lusaka, Zambia, for consultations with the guerrilla movement's exiled leadership.

Although the ANC remains outlawed, the release of Sisulu and his colleagues has been widely viewed as a tacit acknowledgment by the government of the movement's influence and popularity among South Africa's black majority.

Even relatively conservative black leaders have said they will reject any negotiations with the government unless the ANC is legalized and its jailed leaders freed.

In recent weeks, the government has permitted ANC flags and posters to be displayed openly at mass protests, something not allowed before de Klerk took power in mid-August.

ANC symbols were particularly in evidence Saturday, when more than 200,000 blacks joined in marches nationwide protesting government policy and celebrating the imminent release of the eight prisoners.

Mandela, 71, conferred with Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and other government officials before the announcement of the prisoner releases.

## East Germany offers old answers to old problems

By Paul Holmes  
Reuter

**WEST BERLIN** — East Germany's ageing leaders, shaken by pro-reform protests and a mass exodus, are facing old problems with old answers.

Parallels between events shaking East Germany in 1989 and a bloody workers' uprising in 1953 stop at the use of Soviet tanks to stifle dissent.

But some of the problems and the responses from East German leaders are strikingly similar to those of 36 years ago.

Take the press for example. "You don't write in the newspaper what we tell you," the Communist Party daily Neues Deutschland quoted a disgruntled worker as saying in June 1953.

"The time for more realistic reporting in our media was long overdue," said a worker's letter in the same newspaper Saturday after the party approved a controlled relaxation of the media.

The workers' revolt grew from discontent over raised production quotas into outright opposition to communism.

Then as now, the discontent that exploded into open protest

was accompanied by tens of thousands of East Germans pouring into West Germany.

Then as now the Communist Party's ruling Politburo responded with a dramatic statement acknowledging all was not right in the workers' and peasants' state.

"The Politburo... has taken the view that a series of mistakes have been made by the sed (Communist Party) and the government of the German Democratic Republic," the 1953 statement said in outlining a "new course" for the young state.

Last Wednesday's ruling Politburo statement, issued after riots and protests upset East Germany's 40th anniversary celebrations, cited similar areas for change.

It called for discussion of "all basic questions of our society" but made clear the socialist system was not up for debate.

Communist Party officials, then as now, went into factories to discuss workers' concerns.

One was Erich Honecker, now the embattled leader of the party and then a 41-year-old candidate member of the Politburo and head of the FDJ Communist Youth Organisation.

"I learned their personal thoughts, ideas and desires and was able to understand the causes of their dissatisfaction," Honecker says in his autobiography of a visit to factory workers in Potsdam.

The party's Potsdam area newspaper, the Markische Volksstimme, reported Honecker's visit hotly in its account of the debate showed a touch of the 1980s Soviet-style glasnost that has come in the past week to the staid East German media.



Erich Honecker

YOUTH ORGANISATION.

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Rajiv Gandhi

## Gandhi rules out early elections

**NEW DELHI (R)** — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said Saturday general elections would be held on schedule despite his government's defeat over two parliamentary bills.

Gandhi made the announcement at a meeting of his Congress Party members of parliament to end growing speculation that the polls would be called as soon as possible. He must call elections in time to constitute a new parliament by Jan. 14.

Gandhi said his party would use the defeat of two bills in the upper house Friday as its most important campaign issue in the elections.

"The opposition demonstrated they were not interested in ending corruption and nepotism or in improving the efficiency of delivering the fruits of development to the poor and weaker sections of our society," Gandhi said.

The bills, to devolve power from state governments to village and town councils, fell short of the required two-thirds majority by two and three votes respectively.

"This will be our major campaign platform, that the opposition is against any real devolution of power to the grass-roots level," said Minister of State for Information K.K. Tiwari.

Political analysts said the two bills were aimed at wooing the rural population, who make up 80 per cent of India's 800 million people.

## Peking school bans mah-jong, tipsiness

**PEKING (R)** — Peking University students have been forbidden to play mah-jong, get drunk, or do business or spread Western political ideas, as China's defence ministry warned of a long-term struggle against anti-communist subversion.

The new regulations published in the Peking Daily Sunday are aimed at rooting out anti-government feeling on the campus that led in April and June to the largest scale demonstrations in 40 years of communism.

Hundreds, perhaps thousands, were killed when the military were sent in on June 4 to crush the protests.

Students who returned to the campus Saturday are forbidden to play mah-jong or get drunk, or engage in illegal trading and spreading "bourgeois liberal ideas" — Western political ideas — which Peking blames for causing the protests.

The students are spending their first week entirely on politics and 797 teachers have been assigned to conduct political study in addition to their regular classes, the newspaper said.

The government is further taking its revenge on Peking University by sending the entire first year class of 748 for a year to a military academy 300 kilometres south of the capital. Soldiers are being held up as national models.

State television, Saturday reported the publication of "A Day of Martial Law," personal accounts by soldiers, militia and police of their experiences after martial law was declared in Peking May 20.

The new book not only has great literary and historical value, the Liberation Army daily commented Sunday, but also "is a strong weapon to expose the

rumours and dirty slanders of the counter-revolutionary forces at home and abroad."

The battle against such forces will be a long-term one, said Defence Minister Qin Qiwai.

The newspaper quoted him as telling a meeting that the world reactionary forces had never given up their hostility towards and attempts to subvert the socialist system.

"In China, the struggle of infiltration and counter-infiltration, subversion and counter-subversion will go on for a long time to come," he said.

Peking says these forces were behind the protests, trying to turn China into a vassal of the capitalist world.

The People's Daily Sunday continued its fierce propaganda against the capitalist world with a lengthy article by Zhan Wenyi, an assistant professor at a university in Toronto.

Zhan accused capitalist countries of prospering from the exploitation of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The United States accounted for 30 per cent of the world's consumption with just five per cent of its population, he said.

If China went capitalist, it would be forced to depend on others to survive. Capitalist countries would not give China resources to exploit and its people would return to the chaos and poverty of earlier rule by warlords, he said.

During the past 10 years of reform, China had been given a warning by importing elements of capitalism — inflation, corruption, a drop in the standard of rural health and in the social status of women and environmental pollution and degradation, Zhan added.

## Pope: Video is evil

**RODRIGUES ISLAND, Mauritius (R)** — Pope John Paul was greeted by electric guitar music as he arrived Sunday for an open-air mass on a remote Indian Ocean island, where he delivered a warning that videos threatened family life.

More than half the 36,000 strongly Roman Catholic inhabitants of Rodrigues attended the gathering at a simple sports stadium set among wooded hills in the centre of the island.

After arriving to the sound of disco-style electric guitars, the Pope, wearing green vestments, celebrated mass from a palm-thatched shelter resembling traditional houses on the windswept island 650 kilometres east of Mauritius.

"Like other societies, Rodrigues is suffering the full force of influences, such as videos, which threaten the stability of the family," he said in his homily.

Many benefits of modern civilisation such as electricity and tarred roads had already reached Rodrigues, a simple and close-knit society of poor farmers and fishermen.

But, the Pope added, not all the innovations of modern life had been beneficial.

"For a long time, Rodrigues seems to have lived quietly, like a great and united family, where everybody knows each other and no one is left out. But suddenly, there is concern for the future. This is the test," he said.

The threat posed by modern life and materialism to traditional moral values had been the theme of the Pope's visit to Mauritius,

which has enjoyed an economic boom in the past 10 years.

The former British colony of one million people has moved away from its traditional dependence on sugar by developing tourism and manufacturing industries geared to the export market.

Development has been concentrated on Rodrigues island and Rodrigues remains a backwater afflicted by high unemployment and low living standards.

The Pope told the people of Rodrigues that they should hold fast to their traditional moral values and resist the temptations of materialism.

"May your love for God the Father always remain detached from irrational attitudes and the 'magic' seductions which enslave," the Pope said.

The Pope arrived in Mauritius Saturday on the final stage of a tour which has also included South Korea and Indonesia.

Later Sunday, he was due to fly back to Mauritius for a meeting with 22,000 young people at a stadium in the town of Rosehill and a gathering of clergy at the shrine of the Blessed Jacques Desire Laval in the capital port Louis.

Pope John Paul has acknowledged Laval, a French missionary who worked among freed black slaves in Mauritius, as a source of inspiration.

The 19th-century priest, revered by the island's Christians and regarded as a hero by its Hindus and Muslims, was the first person beatified by the Pope after his election in 1978.

The pontiff is due to fly back to Rome Monday.

## Failed coup brings fear to Noriega

By Eloy O. Aguilar  
The Associated Press

**PANAMA CITY** — Although General Manuel Antonio Noriega has survived another coup attempt, the damage inflicted by the revolt from within the ranks of his defence forces, is expected to take some time to repair.

Some political observers say the damage may be irreparable.

"Noriega must know by now that he cannot trust anyone around him," declared Ricardo Arias Calderon, leader of the Panamanian opposition.

Even Noriega, de facto ruler of Panama as chief of the defence forces, has said he is on guard against any further attempts.

"The psychological war will go on trying to involve our own forces," Noriega told supporters last week. "We must be prepared. They will catch us by surprise again."

The Oct. 3 barracks coup attempt apparently was a painful one for Noriega.

The betrayal was staged by young officers, the men he has said will carry Panama into the

next century after the defence and control of the Panama Canal are turned over in 1999 by the United States.

Since the failed coup in which 11 soldiers died — some critics claim after the troops had surrendered — Noriega is believed to be considering ways to restructure the defence forces. He had developed the military into what he thought was a loyal unit with young officers brought in from the lower income classes.

Noriega blames the United States for all his troubles including international isolation owing to his poor image abroad as well as a noisy but ineffectual opposition at home.

Noriega was indicted in 1988 in the United States on charges of drug trafficking and money laundering. Efforts by the United States to oust him, including economic sanctions against Panama, have failed.

Noriega vehemently denies the charges in the indictments.

In May, international observers said the opposition won presidential elections in Panama. But the government annulled the results and the United



Manuel Noriega

States ever since has openly encouraged the military to overthrow Noriega.

Yet, when the young rebels took action on Oct. 3, U.S. soldiers in battle gear watched as the coup failed while they waited for orders from Washington.

It was the second barracks coup against Noriega. In 1988 Noriega quickly put down a bloodless March 1988 rebellion

led by his chief of police. Eighteen men were arrested.

This time the cut was deep. The rebellious unit was his headquarters security company, led by its commander. It was crushed in five hours with the help of two loyal elite units that came to the rescue of the besieged commander in the defence headquarters.

Although Panamanian officers claim U.S. soldiers blocked some loyalist forces near the headquarters, there were some reports that some Panamanian units hesitated in the early hours, waiting to see what would happen.

Some sources said that was one of the reasons that led to the arrest of chief of intelligence Guillermo Wong. At least two other colonels were arrested for not coming quickly enough to Noriega's side. All three were members of Noriega's general staff.

It now appears that the lower ranks showed most of the damage to the defence forces as an institution. Eleven soldiers were killed: one major, five captains, three lieutenants and two sergeants.

## Soviets force NATO to go political

By Barry Schweid  
The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — Changes in Eastern Europe encouraged by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev are forcing Western leaders to consider a more political and less military role for the 40-year-old NATO alliance.

If the cold war is receding, why stay armed to the teeth, glaring at the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact across a divided Europe? Isn't it time to bring some of the 305,000 American troops home?

Manfred Woerner, the former West German defence minister who is NATO's secretary-general, considered those sorts of questions Thursday in an appearance in Washington before the Atlantic Council of the United States.

His advice is a nutshell: NATO should keep its guard up. But also it should play more

of a political role and hasten the union of West European countries.

As for the American troops, their future depends on the outcome of negotiations in Vienna and on the wishes of President George Bush and Congress.

Bush has proposed a 10 per cent cutback as part of a deal with the Warsaw Pact that would force even deeper reductions on the Eastern side. Western negotiators are awaiting Moscow's reply.

When NATO was created, Western leaders were convinced the Red Army would sweep across the European continent unless hundreds of thousands of troops, armed with nuclear weapons, artillery and tanks stood in their way.

Although NATO has never been tested in a war, it's become a cliché to affirm solemnly that

the alliance has kept the peace for 40 years.

But is the cold war over? Woerner does not think so, although he concluded "clearly we are at the end of the post-war period" and that the 16 NATO allies should take a fresh look at the European landscape.

Fifty-thousand young East Germans have fled to the West in recent weeks. The Hungarian Communist Party has dissolved itself and reconstituted as a Western-style Socialist Party. Poland is being governed by its first non-Communist-led cabinet since the war.

"The Communist system is failing, clearly failing," Woerner concluded.

Gorbachev is testing NATO with arms control proposals even as he consents to political and economic change within the Warsaw Pact nations.

"Even in a landscape of political change," he said, "we need the solid and sound defence. Turmoil is in the air everywhere there is change. The potential is still there."

The people in Western Europe are responding with calls for disarmament, although Woerner cited polls that show 70 to 80 per cent are in favour of maintaining the NATO alliance.

In December, the North Atlantic Council will meet to consider reshaping NATO's mission. No revolutionary changes are contemplated, but Woerner hopes the alliance should assume a more political role with the goal of accelerating trends towards a united Europe — and not lower its guard.

"The problem is only to sell it to our own people," Woerner said. "This is a question of leadership. You have to say to your people what you need, and they accept it. I am firmly convinced they accept it."

In his own mind, of course, Woerner is convinced of NATO's utility.

"It guarantees peace, it guarantees peaceful change," he said.

## COLUMN

### Soviet dating firm targets foreigners

**MOSCOW (R)** — A computer dating service in Moscow is matching up Soviet citizens with would-be spouses from more than 100 foreign countries, a Moscow newspaper reported Saturday. Moskovskaya Pravda said the dating firm had 450,000 applicants, half of them foreigners, in its computer banks, sorted by interests and psychological profile. One Soviet woman used the service to find an Italian husband. The firm also has American, British, French and West German citizens on its books. The report attributed demand to social change. "We are changing, becoming more sociable," it said, adding that the firm was considering publishing its own newspaper.

### Shakespeare's Globe may have been found

**LONDON (R)** — Archaeologists believe they have found the remains of William Shakespeare's Globe theatre under a central London car park. "It seems almost certain that this is the Globe," Peter Thompson of the Museum of London said Thursday. "The museum is very excited." The Globe, Shakespeare's own playhouse where all his most famous works were performed, was built in 1599. Archaeologists have uncovered three wall foundations on the site, and an intriguing clue: a layer of crushed hazelnut shells.

### 'Darkie' toothpaste changes name

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)** — "Darkie" toothpaste will now be known as "Dartie" toothpaste in Malaysia because its old name was considered racially offensive, its distributors said Saturday. Hawley and Hazel Ltd., which has been distributing the toothpaste here for more than 40 years, said in a statement it would spend about one million ringgits (\$370,000) to promote the name change. The company said it has about a 30 per cent share of the toothpaste market in Malaysia, and the name change followed charges that the former name was racially insensitive.

### And you thought you were smart

**PEKING (R)** — A six-year-old Chinese girl prodigy has gone to the United States to study, an official newspaper said. The Shanghai Economic Times, received in Peking Thursday, said Tong Yingying, six, who works at the city's Institute of Philosophy, spent the last year preparing for her trip. She can recite 30 English texts of higher middle school standard and work on a sophisticated computer, the paper said. It gave no more details.

### 27-hour Yodel hits world records

**LONDON (R)** — A 27-hour yodel, recorded in May by an American man, Ashrita Furman, is among the new entries in the latest Guinness Book of Records, published Friday. The updated list of exotic feats comprised some 15,000 records, including 3,000 new ones. A Guinness spokeswoman said over 60 million copies of the book had been sold since it was first produced in 1955, second only to the Bible. Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson is listed as the world's fastest man over 100 metres, though the publishers said his 1987 record of 9.83 seconds would be withdrawn in the next edition because he had admitted taking illegal steroid drugs to boost his performance.

### Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	09	48	14 57 Rain
ATHENS	12	54	22 62 Cloudy
BAHRAIN	25	73	30 91 Clear
BANGKOK	24	75	30 88 Rain
Buenos Aires	18	64	23 74 Clear
Cairo	18	68	28 82 Clear
CHICAGO	15	58	30 85 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	08	43	18 55 Clear
Frankfurt	05	41	15 51 Cloudy
Geneva	05	41	15 54 Clear
HONG KONG	24	78	28 82 Clear
Jakarta	25	81	32 88 Clear
LONDON	07	45	16 61 Cloudy
Los Angeles	15	59	21 71 Clear
MADRID	10	50	21 70 Clear
MECCA	24	75	41 108 Clear
MONTREAL	03	37	14 57 Cloudy
MOSCOW	05	41	46 62 Cloudy
NEW DELHI	22	72	34 84 Clear
NEW YORK	14	57	22 71 Cloudy
PARIS	08	47	17 63 Cloudy
ROME	08	48	21 70 Clear
SYDNEY	13	55	25 77 Clear
TOKYO	17	53	24 75 Clear
VIENNA	08	48	14 57 Cloudy